

THE AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY JOURNAL

WHY CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES?
THE C.S.I.R.O. LIBRARY SYSTEM

Vol. 9. No. 3

Quarterly

July, 1960

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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Published quarterly by

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

(Formerly The Australian Institute of Librarians)

Editor: Jean P. Whyte, B.A., A.M.

Contributions should be typewritten on quarto paper and double-spaced. Spelling and style should conform to the Rules for Compositors and Readers at the University Press, Oxford. By H. Hart, Revised by Murray and Bradley 1952. All contributions and correspondence should be sent to the Honorary Editor c/o Fisher Library, University of Sydney, N.S.W.

Subscription as a member of the Association includes subscription to the Journal. For extra copies and to non-members the charges including postage are 5/- a copy and 20/- a year. Membership of the Association is open to persons and bodies engaged or interested in library service.

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MUNICIPALITY OF FAIRFIELD DEPUTY LIBRARIAN

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced Librarians for appointment to the position of Deputy Librarian in the Fairfield Municipal Library.

The salary is at present £1,671 for males and £1,485 for females, subject to rise and fall in the basic wage.

Applications should reach the undersigned by 4.00 p.m. Friday, 26th August, 1960 and should state the earliest date on which duties could be commenced.

The Municipality of Fairfield covers an area of approximately 37 square miles and is situated on the western fringes of the Sydney metropolitan area. The population of 69,000 is growing at the rate of about 5,000 a year. The Library Service consists of a temporary central library and headquarters, one branch library and a mobile library. Plans are in hand for a new central library and three additional branch libraries. The Chief Librarian is W. L. Brown, A.L.A., and there is a staff of 14. Further particulars will be supplied on request.

Council is unable to assist with housing.

V. WINTON, Town Clerk.

Council Chambers, Fairfield, N.S.W.
10th June, 1960.

CITY OF CAMBERWELL, VICTORIA CATALOGUER

Applications are invited from qualified persons for the above position. It is desired that applicants be holders of the Registration Certificate of the Library Association of Australia and have held the position of Cataloguer, preferably in a Municipal Library.

Salary will be by arrangement according to qualifications and experience.

Applications, stating age, educational qualifications and experience should be accompanied by copies only of testimonials and addressed to the Chief Administrator, Town Hall, Camberwell.

Further particulars may be obtained from the City Librarian.

L. F. CHEFFERS

Chief Administrator.

Editorial

When the rush of people at the circulation desk has subsided or the telephones have stopped ringing for the day: when the reference librarian has time to look up and worry about the questions that cannot be answered: when the cataloguer closes the Rules for the night: the true librarian dreams, and many of the dreams of the perfect library that he hopes to build are concerned with cataloguing. So many of our problems are concerned with access to books—there is not a library in the world that is big enough to be self-sufficient and there is not a reference librarian who has not cursed the uncertainty, the haphazard coverage and the eccentricity of bibliographies and catalogues. There is not a cataloguer who has not been aware at some time, as he wrestles with a difficult entry, of the tremendous time and energy that is being spent on this problem as 1000 other cataloguers do the same work. True it is that some reference librarians may take pride in their easy use of the most eccentric bibliographies, and true it is that some cataloguers enjoy disagreeing with the entries of other libraries—but the librarian cannot be proud or triumphant over anything which delays or reduces the service that his library can give to those who use it. Bibliographies and catalogues exist for the people who seek information from them—they are not memorials to their compilers. The more simple, the more consistent, the more economical of compilation they can be, the better they will be.

The experiment on cataloguing in source was an attempt to realize that most attractive of dreams—the self-cataloguing book. The report¹ on the experiment should not be allowed to discourage because enough

was achieved to focus attention on the real problems that must be solved.

Foremost among these problems is that of achieving uniform cataloguing codes throughout the world, and the International Conference on Catalogue Code Revision which will be held in September, 1961, should go some way towards making this dream come true. But its success depends on the work that is done before the delegates meet—on the agreement that is reached among the cataloguers of each country and on the hard thinking that is done by librarians throughout the world. If the Conference is to achieve its objective and reach agreement on basic principles governing the choice and form of entry in the alphabetical catalogue of authors and titles, and if its decisions when reached are to have any practical results, librarians everywhere must realize its importance, must read the literature on the problems posed and must think on these problems.

The problems which the Conference will attempt to solve include those of multiple authorship, serial publications, anonymous works, corporate authorship, title entry, compound names, transliteration and the relationship between library cataloguing and other forms of bibliographical information.

Branches and Sections of the Library Association of Australia should discuss these problems and forward their views to the convener of the Australian Committee, Dr. A. D. Osborn, Librarian, Sydney University Library. The Editor will be pleased to publish articles and comments on cataloguing problems, and hopes that the comment will not only be from cataloguers. The catalogue is the key to the library's collections—it belongs to the library's public and it is used extensively by those

¹ The Cataloguing-in-Source Experiment. A report to the Librarian of Congress by the Director of the Processing Department. Library of Congress, 1960.

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librarians who serve that public directly. Ideas and criticisms from the consumers of catalogues may be even more helpful than ideas and criticism from the producers of catalogues.

Australian librarians have twelve months to think about the problems of the catalogue—to consider how we can help to realize one of the persistent dreams that

has been shared by generations of librarians. Our thinking will be most productive if we base it on knowledge of present codes and if we remember always what the purposes of the catalogue are—and above all if we shun any feelings or suggestions that we are discovering “The Law”—we are trying to produce an international code that will work.

BIRTHDAY HONOURS

FRANK C. FRANCIS, Director of the British Museum, has received a Knighthood (K.C.B.).

GEOFFREY COCHRANE REMINGTON was awarded the C.M.G. for public services.

ARTHUR L. G. McDONALD, Librarian Emeritus of the Australian National University received the O.B.E.

We congratulate these three who have contributed much to our profession—Sir Frank and Mr. McDonald as librarians and Mr. Remington as the man behind the Free Library Movement.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

The Acting Prime Minister has announced that the legislation to separate the Parliamentary Library and the National Library and to set up a Commonwealth Government Archives Agency as a separate institution is pending. We shall soon have an interim National Library Council, a Draft Bill for the National Library and a Draft Building Programme for that Institution.

*Why Children's Libraries?

D. R. HALL

Children's Librarian, Public Library of South Australia

Tonight I want to say something about why children's libraries exist—not with the idea of presenting a definite case, but because I think several things need to be said about children's libraries—said quite loudly and quite often, and freely discussed.

There are several reasons for this. First, and most immediate, this year's programme of meetings will include visits to a number of libraries, and the discussion of a number of books. And I want to give some indication of what we should look for in these libraries, among their books, and from their librarians. By libraries, of course, I mean children's libraries, and I want to say now—at the outset—that we must think of children's libraries as a term including all libraries for children, whether in schools or as sections of a public library. One of the many reasons for the appalling standard of children's librarianship in Australia is the general tendency to think—if at all—only in terms of one of the two main species of children's libraries—species which are essentially complementary, so that any children's librarian, if he is to give real service, must know the aims and areas of service of both kinds.

Another reason is that I have been looking at children's libraries, and I have seen a number of things which, personally, I would prefer to leave decently hidden, but which, professionally, I know should be exhumed and post-mortemed.

I have seen children's libraries where the fiction collection was a noisome mess of Blyton and Biggles. Where the picture books were characterised by Pookie, and predominantly pink perpetrations which no self-respecting designer of soap advertisements would dare to acknowledge as his work. Where teenage fiction was a mass of Gene Stratton Porter, Baroness Orczy, Pollyanna, M. G. Bruce and Ethel Turner. I have seen a group of 14-year-old girls descend on a fiction collection in which there were only two good books: *The*

Hobbit and Coatsworth's *The Enchanted*.

I have seen non-fiction collections that consisted mainly of Wonder Books and school texts. I have seen librarians in public libraries buying quantities of books listed on the curricula of the local schools, and deliberately setting out to provide project material for children and teachers. And I have seen all these books jammed into shelves, anyhow, so that no book could be found without the assistance of a detective force aided by bloodhounds—or rather, from the condition of the books, jam hounds. Shabby, dirty books, greasy and uninviting; books with no call numbers to indicate their location; books that were obviously regarded by their keepers only as ciphers in the library's statistics.

I have looked at library catalogues—and found author and title entries without call numbers. And I have asked myself why in the name of Callimachus these people went to the expense of making catalogue entries that were valueless—a waste of public money and a denial of opportunity to the children whom every children's librarian is pledged to assist.

I have seen a children's librarian sitting at her desk sorting cards while a mass of schoolboys milled helplessly and noisily round the shelves of what was to them a playground, not a library. I have heard that same librarian—and others—deplore the fact that children habitually mutilated books—and be quite incapable of seeing why this general mutilation and misuse of books occurred.

I have seen books issued wordlessly, sourly, grudgingly, or with warnings about clean hands and the special hell reserved for children who damage books.

I have seen all these things. I have read annual reports that burnt candles only to the great god Statistics; which showed no

*A talk given to the South Australian Division of the Children's Libraries Section.

awareness of children, no idea—let alone ideal—of service—only a boundless will to please the local council.

I have been sorry for the children who visited and tried to use these serve-yourself stores masquerading as libraries. And when the white-hot rage cooled I have been sorry for the "librarians"—the poor clerks filling in time, lackadaisically going through prescribed motions, putting up with children, enduring work—enduring, something which should be a strenuous delight, a job demanding and infinitely rewarding.

But, despite the rage and the sorrow I have understood. I know that the miscellaneous collections of unmentionable rubbish, the inaccessible books, the services given only in name to propitiate strange gods—I know that these things exist only because these "librarians" do not know why children's libraries are provided, and why public money is spent on children's books. And I know that this basic ignorance is prevalent in Australia.

I know, of course, that the too-rapid growth of local libraries with a consequent lack of informed staff is partly to blame. I know that, in N.S.W. particularly, the old idea that the children's library is mainly concerned with social therapy, is prevalent. I know that this idea began with Mary Matheson's Children's Library Movement. And I know that librarians who have accepted this role of the physician have placed themselves in the position of the uneducated medico who thinks only in terms of the body diseased, not in terms of the healthy body which should be the right of every man, woman and child.

But above all, I know that this damnable and culpable state of affairs is due to ignorance—to an unthinking acceptance of things as they are; to a laziness that refuses to ask the question why do children's libraries exist? Why should we provide books for children?

Now—if we are going to examine other people's libraries—or to assess our own libraries and our own work in these libraries, we have to be able to answer these basic whys. And to do this I think we need to understand that, once the

inductive stage—the research stage—has been passed, the positive examination of any subject must be a process of thinking outwards from established truths—the basic principles that previous reasoning has assembled and tested. If this is true, we have now to ask, "What is that minimum of truth from which we can begin our thinking on this subject of children's libraries?"

That essential minimum, I think, must include for a start a definition of all libraries—from children's libraries down to Parliamentary libraries. I think we have to accept as basic that a library is a collection of books and other materials, selected to serve the known needs of a given public, and so organised and so administered that any item in the collection, and any information, may be available when needed, whether the need is realized or not.

If we accept this definition—personally, after examination and appreciation of all its implications—then we can go on to particular kinds of libraries. We can say, for instance, that the aims of the children's library in the schools are:

To give children an opportunity to practise the reading skills they have acquired in the classroom.

To encourage children to use worthwhile books for positive recreation.

To encourage children to look to books for information, as they will need to do in later life.

To teach children how to work with books, and to use standard library facilities.

To assist children to gain the skills of personal research, and in doing so to give them access to a wide range of experience.

To supplement, vivify, and unify the curriculum.

To act as an information source for children, classes and teachers.

We should accept next that the stated aims of any particular type of library are an expression of needs that are known to exist, and which it is proper and socially economical for that type of library to attempt to satisfy.

And we can go on to say that, from our definition, and from what we have said about aims, a school library, if it is to be a library must provide a collection, must provide direct and indirect access to that collection through the process known as organisation for use, and also by means of certain services. And it must do all these things with the single purpose of satisfying needs that are known to exist among children attending school.

A lot of things can be said about children; a lot of things are said about children—some of them quite regrettable. Two things can be said, however, without any fear of denial, without sentimentality or other subjective colouring.

First: Because he is the product of thousands of generations of ancestors a child is born with a bewildering variety of potentialities.

Second: If a child can realize all of his acceptable potentialities he is assured of a full and happy life as an adult. And at the same time he will prove a useful member of the society of which he is a part.

Now, the needs which the children's library—school or public—exists to satisfy are the needs of the child for the materials necessary for full and—as far as socially possible—free development.

The trouble is—who knows enough about children to assess their developmental needs? People who have qualified as parents seem to most of us to be the obvious nominees. But despite the fact that an eminent political personage was quoted recently by *The Advertiser* as saying that experience with their own offspring was sufficient to counteract lack of academic qualifications among married women teachers, this is a generalization which, as a generalization is demonstrably untrue. Parents, in general, are far too apt to draw general conclusions from particular cases. Parents, too, often suffer from pre-conceived theories about children, from possessiveness, and from a pre-occupation with the material and organizational facts of family life.

How about teachers? Here again blanket nomination cannot be accepted. Many teachers are far too immature themselves

to attempt an understanding of that complex and wonderful animal, a human child. They show this personal inadequacy by a defensive attitude that is an impenetrable wall between themselves and the children they teach, by obeying the dictates of a curriculum rather than the needs of an individual child, by the repressive discipline that is a symptom of fear of children, and a confession of inability to understand a child.

Well, it looks as though we're left with children's librarians as the only people capable of assessing the needs of a child. But—speaking as a person who is a parent, was a teacher, and is trying to be a children's librarian—this again, as a generalization, is untrue. There are too many children's libraries—school and public—in Australia staffed by immature people between the ages of 16 and 60—sentimental old maids of either sex and either marital status, whose pretty little theories about children are as remote from the grubby and glorious realities as *Ida Rentoul Outhwaite's* fairies are from the real fairies which are a part of humanity. Parental staff, with their tendency to argue from what they choose to see in their own darlings—spoiled or otherwise. Frightened staff, who think the essential qualification for work with children is ability to “keep order”. Stupid staff who condescend to children . . . staff, yes—but never librarians.

Now, to talk in terms of a genus called “children” or “the child” is, of course, merely to mouth evasive generalities which are inadmissible in a profession that exists only to serve the needs of the individual. Many librarians and educators try to get over this by talking exclusively of “a child” and his needs. But the terminological substitution is, in too many cases, only another form of evasion.

A children's library exists to give opportunities for self development to children, the child, or, if you like, a child.

But a children's library may, like this one, have ten or eleven thousand borrowers. If professional staff could be got as Jason got his armies, by sowing dragon's teeth, then the business of ascertaining and assessing the needs of these ten or eleven thousand individuals would be relatively

easy — by means of inspired work on the floor of the library. But before we can invite these thousands of children into our library, before we can talk with them and try to assess the needs which we can attempt to satisfy through the medium of books—before all this we have to select for these unknown children a collection of books adequate to their needs. This means that we must know—long before the floor work begins—the developmental needs that are likely to occur among these thousands of individual children whom we cannot possibly know as individuals. And if we believe in children's libraries and children's librarianship we dare not know merely a genus called children.

On what, then, can we base an understanding of child needs? What do we know that will enable us to foresee the needs that we will perceive later on the floor of the library?

Well—we know that, because they are human, all children pass through various predictable—and possible primitive—stages on their way to maturity. We can say that at certain early ages most young children become aware of their own personalities, that they begin vaguely to understand that other people also have personalities, that they try on various personalities in make-believe, that they endow animals with an anthropomorphic personality. We know that an errant stage follows; hunting atavisms emerge; primitive—or, if you like, real religion comes into the picture; and that the gregarious and defensive attitudes which, long ago, produced the tribe, appear and are as obvious as the later desire for a hero to worship.

But these stages, each of which educes its own peculiar needs, are innate, and therefore predictable in general terms. We are concerned with individuals who are the product not only of these hereditary influences, but also of the influences of environment. And we must appreciate these environmental factors if we are going to select books for unknown children. And because our thousands of children are unknown our appreciation must depend upon an understanding of the structure of the society which has produced our thousands of borrowers.

We need to understand that some children are fortunate: they have been born into professional families or the families of aspiring artisans where opportunities for children are dearly prized. We need to know, too, that the artisan's child may need more from books—and need more assistance in getting what he needs—than the child whose experience has been enriched by an articulate home.

We need to understand, too, that other groups of children in our society will be far less fortunate. The children who come from prosperous agricultural, commercial or industrial families where false values too often either obscure the normal intellectual, emotional and imaginative needs of a growing child, or permit the emergence and the survival of only a few of the normal needs. Such families—people who sell their lives for money to spend on the necessities which make life possible and the pleasures which, for them, make life endurable — such families are the least literate portion of a community, and their children are the least aware of books and the experiences which can be had from books.

Children's libraries exist to give children, fortunate or unfortunate, the opportunity to grow up to be as good as they were born to be, so that, while living as part of a community, they may attain a full and happy life as individuals, and useful lives as citizens.

But to have children's libraries you must have children's librarians—people who are professional workers — people incessantly pre-occupied with the needs of their fellow men—and their offspring. These people may be parents, teachers, or plain twenty-four-hour-a-day librarians. They must concern themselves ceaselessly with observation of children, individually and socially, and with the ceaseless attempt to understand and assess their needs. They must never exhibit those symptoms of senility called fixed opinions. And they must never be so juvenile that they entertain silly theories, stupid condescensions, contempt or fear of children. This amounts to a full-time job —and to a forgetfulness of self that can come only from personal conviction of the importance of children and their needs.

The presence of such a convinced librarian can be detected from an examination of his library.

First of all, he has built up a collection of books. And those books will at once bear witness, to the informed investigator, of the maturity of the librarian. He has provided fiction. Do you think he has provided this with the primary intention of providing children with the means of self development? Or does he think "recreation" is synonymous with "entertainment" or education is a forcing rather than a withdrawing? Has he pandered to mediocrity? Is he stupid enough to think Biggles is "harmless"? (I was once; I was a fool, but I was not such a knave as to ignore my responsibility to keep on growing up for the sake of the children I served). Has he made cowardly condescensions to popular pressures—pressures which tend invariably towards the mediocrity enforced by mass communication? Does his collection show that timidity which is a confession of lack of critical ability? Has he included only that fiction which is generally approved—for a variety of reasons ranging from an absence of slang to soundness of grammar? Do you think he has made a deliberate selection of books in which the writer has something he must express, and the ability to express it? And do you think he has examined this thing-to-be-expressed—the theme of the work—in the light of its positive value to a child reader?

And his non-fiction. Does this show that he understands that a normally developing child has interests which are the outward sign of his inner needs at the time? If his is a public children's library, has he attempted to give the widest possible coverage of the whole range of a normal child's legitimate interests? And has he done this by selecting the best possible books available in each interest field? Does his non-fiction show signs of pandering to illegitimate demands—is he providing large quantities of material for pupil borrowers and for teachers?

If he has a children's library in a school, does he understand that he has an obligation to provide for the needs of both the individual and the pupil child? Does he

show this understanding by representing material that can enlist the interests of the individual child in the possibilities of books and reading and by making full provision for the needs of the pupil child. And this latter provision—is it cowardly; a yielding to pressure? Has he provided material complementary to the school's curriculum; or has he stocked his shelves with text books? Has he chosen books likely to excite curiosity and the desire to read further? Or has he provided the stultifying text book with its "safe" doses of prescribed knowledge—and its inevitably fatal effects on intellectual and imaginative development?

If he has a good collection—a collection with real developmental value—has he made it fully accessible? Are his books shelved intelligently? Has he availed himself of the centuries of hard intellectual work that have been devoted to the organization of human experience, and used classifications schemes and location symbols in ways that are most helpful to children? Is his shelving scheme simple and easily comprehended, or is it broken into fiddly bits that a child finds hard to follow? Has he shelved his books in such a way that the browsing child is likely to find the material he needs? Does his shelving suggest to a child that certain groups of books are more favoured than others? Is all the nice fiction shelved apart from the nasty non-fiction—or vice versa? Are books shelved in age groups, or differentiated by shelf labels, in such a way that the backward reader is frightened to go to the books he needs for fear of ridicule by other children?

Has he catalogued his collection faithfully—with a clear understanding that he is really training children to use standard library facilities—thinking not only of the expedient present, but also, as all workers with children must do, of the future? Does his cataloguing show that he appreciates the catalogue not only as a means of direct access to the collection by children, but that he appreciates that indirect access should be provided also, through the librarian using the catalogue to supply information that an unaided child can get only with difficulty? Does he realize that necessary bibliographic information—infor-

mation that is primarily of use to the reader through the librarian—needs to be put on a catalogue card once; and that to get that information, if it is omitted from the catalogue, the librarian may need to make repeated and expensive searches in reference books again and again for that same information? Has he realized that the smaller the collection of books the more cataloguing is needed if the full value of the information in those books is to be made available?

Now, we can find out all this by examining the library and its collection. But then there is this business of access to books and information through services. And to assess the adequacy of these, if you have to visit his library when it is closed to the public, it is necessary to have a yarn with our hypothetical librarian.

Find out, if you can, whether he fully appreciates his responsibility for making children aware of books and reading; whether he understands that an unaided child cannot hope to find his way through thousands of books to the particular book he needs at a given time; whether he is actively and incessantly engaged in enlisting interest in reading, in promoting books that have a positive developmental value, in ferreting out the present interests of a child and trying his utmost to encourage, stimulate, guide and extend these interests.

Ask the school librarian whether he provides a planned programme of lessons on library facilities and working with books, and book talks about desirable fiction and non-fiction. Ask him, too, why he considers such lessons and such talks are essential.

Ask both the school and the public children's librarian whether they do floor work—and what this consists of. Find out whether it is regarded as a mere being present to answer queries and supply requests—or if it is an active and tactful search for the bewildered child or the doubtful parent: for the people who need help. Find out, too, whether they have ever considered why children may ask for Enid Blyton or the William books — and what they do about such requests.

Ask the librarian of the public children's

library, particularly, why he provides book talks and story hours. His answer will be a measure of his understanding of why libraries are provided for children.

If you can visit a library when it is open for borrowing you can see, in a minute or two, whether the librarian knows why public money has been spent to institute his library, whether, in fact, he knows enough to build and maintain a library, or whether he runs a self-service grocery shop. It will be obvious, at once, if his staff lend books, because they believe in people and in books. It will be equally obvious if his staff are selling their time for money, and for nothing else.

When the library is open and actively lending books, it is easy to see that informed staff are essential to real library service. But if you know why children's libraries exist you will appreciate that, anyway.

You will know that a real children's library exists only when a group of people realizes how important children are, how essential it is that children who are born unequal should be given equality of opportunity, and how books can be selected, organized and promoted to give this opportunity.

When you get people like that you have librarians — people who are able and willing to work really hard to give a service in which they believe — selflessly.

Being a librarian has nothing to do with salary or status. When I see a girl, not long out of school, talking sympathetically and equally with a small child, talking tactfully and with understanding, talking without condescension, above all talking purposefully and intelligently, trying to put that child at ease and to discover his real needs — showing unmistakably that she knows why she is there and talking to the child — when this happens I know that that girl is a librarian, no matter how young she may be.

The workers in libraries who parrot impatient and glib formulas at a child, who disguise their inability to discover the individual and his needs behind a condescending "charm", who buy books without intense, critical effort; who plan

services to propitiate strange gods called statistics — these people are the damned: too lazy, too self-centred, too wilfully ignorant to give opportunity to children.

They do not know why children's libraries exist; or they are too small to spend themselves for the thing called humanity. They can never be librarians.

But the real librarians — the people who tidy shelves or select books or write out

overdues, because they know why children's libraries are essential and because they understand their particular job as a factor in a total service product — are present long after the library has closed for the day and the staff has departed. Their devotion is apparent wherever you look. And, unseen, their work continues, and will continue, among generations yet unborn.

REGISTRATION EXAMINATION, 1960

The Registration Examination will be held from 21st November to 2nd December, 1960, as follows:—

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| R1. Cataloguing, excluding classification and subject headings | Mon., Nov. 21 |
| R2. Classification and subject cataloguing | Tues., Nov. 22 |
| R3. Cataloguing and classification: Practical | Wed., Nov. 23 |
| R4. Provision, administration, processes and services of libraries (all alternatives A-C) | Thurs., Nov. 24 |
| R5. Provision, administration, processes and services of special libraries and information services (all alternatives A-I) | Fri., Nov. 25 |
| R6. History and purposes of libraries and related services | Mon., Nov. 28 |
| R7. Production, acquisition and indexing of materials for research | Tues., Nov. 29 |
| R8. The production, publication, history and care of books | Wed., Nov. 30 |
| R9. Archives, with special reference to Australia | Thurs., Dec. 1 |
| R10. Library work with children, generally, and with special reference to either Public children's libraries and departments OR School libraries | Fri., Dec. 2 |

All examinations are held from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

The C.S.I.R.O. Library System*

BETTY C. L. DOUBLEDAY

Chief Librarian, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization.

The C.S.I.R.O. library system seems to be unique in the Western world. Its closest analogy might be the grouping under the Academy of Sciences in the U.S.S.R., but there the disproportion both in numbers and size of libraries and their collections tends to invalidate any such comparison.

To understand the library system it is necessary to know something of the body it serves. C.S.I.R.O. was created by Act in 1949, but its genesis goes back to 1916 and the Advisory Council for Science and Industry which, in its turn, was re-organized in 1926. In that year the Government of Mr. S. M. Bruce, now Lord Bruce, established the more euphonious Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

For the first ten years of its existence the Organization was mainly concerned with problems of the primary industries through its Divisions of Animal Health and Nutrition, Soils, Economic Botany and Economic Entomology, with an approach to secondary industries being made through the Division of Forest Products. Then, as the prospect of war became more threatening, the Division of Industrial Chemistry and the National Standards Laboratory were added.

In 1949 the Science and Industry Research Act was proclaimed to establish the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization with powers and functions similar to those of the old Council. These include the initiation and carrying out of research in connection with or for the promotion of primary and secondary industries for the Commonwealth or in connection with any matter referred to the Organization by the Ministry; the training of research workers; the making of grants in aid of pure scientific research; the testing and standardization of scientific apparatus and instruments connected with standardization; the collection and dissemination of information relating to

scientific and technical matters; acting as a means of liaison with other countries for research; the establishment of industrial research studentships and fellowships and the establishment of industrial research associations in various industries.

The research activities necessitated a widespread and adaptable establishment and from the early days of the Council it had been the policy to establish laboratories in various parts of the Commonwealth, each with its own staff, equipment and library, wherever conditions seemed best for a particular type of research. Today, some sixty collections of varying sizes provide a service for officers at Divisions, Sections, Laboratories and Field Stations throughout the Commonwealth. How widely spread some of these collections are will be appreciated when it is realized that the central library serving the Divisions of Plant Industry, Entomology and Land Research and Regional Survey in Canberra, is also responsible for fourteen collections located as far north as Darwin, as far south as Hobart and across the continent from Katherine to Kojonup.

The first mention of a library is to be found in the *Annual Report of the Advisory Council for 1917-18*. There, it is said, "A small commencement has been made in the direction of forming a library and new books on subjects which receive favourable reviews from technical journals are received or have been ordered . . . In addition to books, a number of technical journals are received or have been ordered," but so few were the latter that the full list is contained on half a page of the Report.

In December, 1919, the report of the Librarian opened with the following paragraph:

"The library of the Institute consists at present of approximately 2,300 books

* This article is the sixth in the series on the history of Australian libraries.

... and 4,000 pamphlets. In addition about 200 periodicals are regularly received. The two stacks which contained the books when the Institute was moved to its new quarters in March have been increased to three. Each of these three has been extended to the ceiling and a fourth smaller stack, in which the books of the Bureau of Commerce and Industry are at present placed, has been added. The shelves are quite full and many books are still stored in the Museum and in the stairway at the top of the lift."

The Librarian who wrote that paragraph was the late Mr. E. R. Pitt, who, as part-time Librarian of the Institute (he was also the Librarian of the Public Library of Victoria), was remunerated at the rate of 5/- per hour. This remarkable man was at the same time working on what was then known as the *Commonwealth Catalogue of Scientific Periodicals*. The editing of this work was to absorb more and more of his time, even after his retirement from active librarianship. When he retired finally in 1950 he had completed the work for the second edition of the *Union Catalogue of the Scientific and Technical Periodicals in the Libraries of Australia* which, in fact, had by then become almost universally known as *Pitt's Catalogue*.

Mr. Pitt's reports make fascinating reading. Most of his problems are those still besetting the library world. His comments on them and his general approach, as outlined under his heading "Work of the Library", would provide a worthwhile guide for the young librarian setting up house today. It is interesting to note that "the system of cataloguing is based on Cutter's 369 Rules for a Dictionary Catalogue". He did not like a classed catalogue. "Most libraries," he wrote, "use the Dictionary catalogue. Both systems have their advantages but those of the Dictionary system outweigh, in my opinion, those of the classed catalogue. Works on Bean Culture in the first system are put in the Catalogue directly under Bean, and are at once found in their proper drawer. Under the classed system they are found in the class Dicotyledons, order Leguminosae. All works catalogued since my appoint-

ment as Librarian have been done on the Dictionary system."

In 1923 Miss M. E. Archer, then Secretary of the Seed Improvement Committee of the Institute, was asked to add to her duties, the control of the library. In 1926 she was formally appointed as Librarian and, from that date onwards, worked tirelessly to build up the library system to the point where it stands today. When Miss Archer retired in 1954, the pattern had been set and the standards of library service and the status of librarians advanced immeasurably. For her work both within and outside the Organization she was, in 1955, awarded the M.B.E.

It may be of interest here to read an account of the library's first permanent home. It was written by Miss A. L. Kent, who succeeded Mr. E. R. Pitt as Editor of the *Union Catalogue* and who, herself, has recently retired. Miss Kent writes:—

"In 1926 I made my first acquaintance with the library in a somewhat exotic setting—the ball-room of what had been a very lovely private home and which was complete with hand-painted ceiling (cherubs abounding), chandeliers, crystal door knobs, etc. The same room was then, and still is, used as the Council or Board Room, but when in those days the Council sat—well, the library closed. One was given to wondering what effect, if any, the cherubs on the ceiling had upon the minds of staid Councillors. When it was eventually discovered that the cherubs were in danger of descending upon that body, the ceiling was replaced by the one we know today.

"The librarian was seated on a dais whilst her assistant sat 'beneath the salt'. Attention or inattention was reflected in the two mirrors which hung at each end of the room whilst books lined the remaining walls to the ceiling. With trepidation, the staff ascended long ladders and those moments were not without incident. I recall one person left hanging to the shelving whilst the ladder came slowly to earth. The shelving in the library then was all wood and adjustable, but for many of the books and periodicals we wandered all over the building—into the rooms of the

Director, the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the enquiry room and even to the room where we brewed tea and washed up. The store-room was forever restless, and I myself have often assisted to remove its contents from the ground floor (the old kitchen) to upstairs (the maid's quarters) to the old shed in the garden and so on.

"The more official history, taken from a letter of 1927 reads: 'At present, parts of the library are housed in nearly every room in the building. The main accommodation exists in rooms 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 on the ground floor, 14 on the top floor and half of 13. The whole library is extending rapidly and will soon need further accommodation, particularly for periodicals. This can readily be provided for (a) in the storage rooms by the removal of . . . (b) room 13 on the top floor by removing the present stock of bulletins . . . Accommodation for unbound periodicals could be provided for in two rooms on the top floor and two more rooms on the ground floor' and so it went on. Despite the shortage of space the Secretary himself moved into the library for a few days—a possum had indiscreetly passed away in the ceiling of his office!"

The prime function of the C.S.I.R.O. library system is to provide an ancillary service for the officers of the Organization. Its second function can be said to stem from that portion of the Science and Industry Act 1949 which states one of the functions of the Organization to be "the collection and dissemination of information relating to scientific and technical matters". This, in part, means that the library collections and the resources of the system generally are, therefore, available, with very little limitation, to anyone seriously interested in the Organization's fields of interest.

As each separate library was established, the more specialist material was transferred from what then became the Head Office library in East Melbourne to the appropriate Laboratory, and that practice has continued up to the present day. Now, in fact, the wheel has turned full circle and some of these libraries that have become

pressed for accommodation, are sending back to Head Office material they consider better located in a depository store.

The Head Office library has, today, a dual role, first as a co-ordinating body, and secondly as a local library for the Organization's administrative headquarters with responsibilities similar to those of any other library. Its chief interest lies in its first function and the manner in which it is performed, for therein lies the reason for the uniqueness of the library system. The officers in charge of fields of research have, in general, autonomous responsibility within their fields and for the auxiliary services included within the laboratories, subject, of course, to general co-ordination by the Executive. The library system follows this pattern. Each librarian is administratively and functionally responsible to his or her immediate Chief or Officer-in-Charge, but the Chief Librarian is responsible for the co-ordination of the system. This officer is expected to advise the Executive, Chiefs and Officers-in-Charge on all matters relating to library staff, appointments, training, promotions and exchanges. It is essential to see that the staff position in any library is such as to ensure continuity, and it is, therefore, necessary to co-ordinate effort so that an adequate service can be provided and maintained without waste of personnel, money or material.

With the establishment of the first libraries attached to Divisions and Sections, it was decided to maintain a union catalogue covering books and serials as a means of co-ordinating all the collections. The record that already existed was retained at Head Office and extra catalogue cards were made to cover the transfer of each book and periodical filed. To differentiate between the libraries, various coloured cards were chosen. The range of colours has long since been exhausted and cards with a coloured stripe along their edge are now used to denote later collections. This union catalogue, which is maintained by the co-operation of all the librarians, serves them as a most useful tool in the acquisition of material. It helps to prevent unnecessary duplication and more than once has been a means of saving space and

money when, after consulting it, it has been found possible to transfer material rather than to buy it. The catalogue also serves as a complement to *Scientific Serials in Australian Libraries* in the handling of much of the reference work for enquiries both within and outside the Organization. Whenever a librarian is uncertain as to the location of a reference, by channelling the enquiry through Head Office library, it is possible to consult both these sources.

In 1959 some 27,000 enquiries were handled by Head Office library enquiry staff and, at a conservative estimate, more than double that number would have been dealt with directly by the staffs of the libraries throughout the system. Not all, of course, can be answered by librarians, and not all are within the scope of C.S.I.R.O., but if so, enquiry officers refer them to officers in the relevant Divisions or Sections, and should the Organization not be the most suitable source of reference, they are frequently able to tell enquirers whom they should contact.

If references cannot be traced in Australia nor obtained on an exchange basis, then they are included in weekly letters to the Organization's liaison officers in London and Washington or to the information centres in such countries as Japan, China and the U.S.S.R., where direct contacts have been established.

These contacts have been the result of the Organization's exchange programme. The Australian series of scientific journals published by C.S.I.R.O. are available on this basis to bodies of similar interest throughout the world. This has meant the building up of a very extensive collection of material amounting overall to approximately 60% of, for example, the periodical and serial titles held.

As a natural corollary of such arrangements, the libraries do get a considerable amount of material that is not of immediate interest to the Organization's officers. In some cases it covers a field far outside those in which C.S.I.R.O. is interested and in these cases the material is offered to the appropriate library. In other cases where librarians feel that although material offered to them has a certain measure of interest, this is not sufficient to warrant

housing it in their own collections, it is considered the function of Head Office library to act as a depository for this material. The quantity of publications falling into this latter category together with long runs of earlier journals and the lesser used material mentioned earlier, made it essential a few years ago to arrange for a depository store in Victoria where they could be housed without taking up valuable working space. This has meant, too, that duplicate sets can be held pending the time when new Divisions or Sections covering additional fields of work will be set up, and may require this type of publication which is so often hard to obtain later.

The union catalogue at Head Office is an author and title catalogue. Subject entries covering the material held only in Head Office Library are filed separately, because it is obviously impracticable and of doubtful desirability to compile for all C.S.I.R.O.'s holdings a subject union catalogue. From the beginning, the principle has been adhered to that classification and subject indexing is better done in the libraries where librarians are familiar with the outlook of their readers, and where, if they themselves are not expert, they are nevertheless able to rely on those who are experts in the literature of their fields. Consequently, practice varies appreciably from one library to the next, but while centralized cataloguing in any form is not considered to be desirable or necessary, uniformity in cataloguing is essential, and each of the libraries is expected to conform to the 2nd edition of the A.L.A. Rules.

Another reason for rejecting centralized cataloguing has been because of inevitable delays that would have occurred, particularly when books are purchased locally many hundreds of miles from Melbourne. Despite the varied nature of the holdings, duplication of stock between collections is less than might be expected. It is only in the periodical or serial field that one is likely to find, for example, 50 copies of a journal such as "Nature" or 22 sets of "Chemical Abstracts".

Head Office and the central Canberra library at Black Mountain both have split dictionary catalogues, as does the Division

of Forest Products, whilst the libraries of the Divisions of Animal Health, Food Preservation and Building Research as well as many of the smaller Sections, work with classified catalogues. In the Canberra library and in some of the smaller libraries, the abridged U.D.C. is used to classify and file material whilst the catalogues are themselves compiled on the dictionary principle.

There is the same variation in the recording of loans throughout the library system. The majority are orthodox, but in Canberra a punch card has been designed which enables all the necessary information to be contained on the one record. The library of the Irrigation Research Station at Griffith is considering following Canberra's example.

Periodical circulation practice differs as widely. In some of the Divisions, journals are displayed on racks in the library for a period, and then issued as ordinary loans to those officers who have initialed the circulation sheets attached to them. In other libraries every journal circulates to a long list of research workers—usually the practice in the smaller Sections. In the majority of cases, however, routing is to individuals, and there are a few libraries wherein a weekly index to articles in periodicals received is circulated to members of the staff who then request particular articles likely to be of interest to them. This latter system is usually combined with a restricted routing system.

The problem of keeping a union catalogue up-to-date is one that has exercised the minds of librarians in many countries over many years. After the Supplement to the second edition, it was realized that the book and form in which "Pitt" had been published was certainly not the answer. C.S.I.R.O. therefore decided to experiment with a loose-leafed format and it is hoped that *Scientific Serials in Australian Libraries*, to give it its new title, will provide librarians and the public they serve with a more up-to-date record than hitherto. Although, theoretically, such a catalogue is an example of co-operative cataloguing in so far as it is compiled from cards sent in by over 300 co-operating libraries, in fact so much editorial work needs to be

done to these cards that it is as much an example of centralized cataloguing.

One of Head Office library's most important functions is the compilation of a card catalogue to the work, both published and unpublished, of the officers of the Organization. Abstracts of this work have been issued monthly since 1952, together with lists of translations prepared by the Translation Section. This publication is mimeographed and issued under the title of *C.S.I.R.O. Abstracts* although, in addition to the abstracts and translations already mentioned, it does include a selection of translations prepared by bodies throughout the Commonwealth and listed in the *British Commonwealth Index of Scientific Translations*, as well as translations made by other bodies throughout Australia. Requests for copies of any translation listed are made either by referring the enquirer to the original source, for example, an industrial firm, or by making a copy available for the cost of the means of reproducing it if the translation has been made by C.S.I.R.O. C.S.I.R.O.'s panel of translators does not undertake work for enquirers outside the Organization, although it does direct people to reliable sources for translations in foreign languages.

Recently the authority file used in the dictionary catalogue covering the C.S.I.R.O. Index was mimeographed and distributed within C.S.I.R.O. It was felt that such a list would be of assistance to less experienced librarians in selecting subject headings. The file itself is, however, still far from its final state, and because of this, only a very limited number of copies were published and their circulation for the same reason is restricted. It is hoped in the near future to be able to publish the entire catalogue, which would then give a fairly complete conspectus of the work of C.S.I.R.O.

Another project that was undertaken on a co-operative basis by the librarians attached to the various Divisions and Sections, was the compilation of a book index to the Organization's *List of Publications*. This was, in the first case, issued as a separate publication but has this year been revised, and will now be included in the

List itself making the material in it, it is hoped, more readily accessible to the enquirer.

The *Australian Science Index*, commenced in 1957, is another co-operative venture. It is intended to cover the scientific and technical periodicals published in Australia and to provide a complement to the *Australian Public Affairs Information Service*. It is also issued monthly with an annual cumulation of author and subject indexes.

Because of the enormous expense of such overseas abstracting services as *Chemical Abstracts*, and because of the time lag in their production, it has for some time been hoped that it might be possible to extend the coverage of this Index to at least the more important overseas scientific and technical journals. That, however, is a big project and one fraught with difficulties as well as expenses, neither of which are easily overcome.

In addition to these publications, there are important and useful bibliographies and lists issued by various Divisions and

Sections. Miss M. I. Hulme, Librarian at the Division of Forest Products prepared the *Bibliography on the Utilisation of the Eucalypts* for the F.A.O. Eucalypts Conference in Rome, 1956, which has since been kept up to date with supplements. *Building Information*, issued by the Division of Building Research, is a publication in the production of which the library staff is involved. The Librarian at the Irrigation Research Station at Griffith has issued a select catalogue of literature on drainage, irrigation and soils in the Griffith, Merbein and Deniliquin libraries. She, too, has issued supplementary volumes bringing the original catalogue up to date. The Librarian at the Division of Animal Physiology has produced bibliographies on sheep and wool production, and each of the libraries, large and small, does, of course, produce accession lists at regular intervals.

There is a constant effort to extend the services given by the libraries and their librarians. No library is an end in itself; it is, or should be, an ancillary service, and as such its development must depend on demand. Perhaps the hardest skill of all to acquire is the skill to create and develop that demand.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Twenty second Annual Meeting of the Library Association of Australia will be held in the Lecture Room, Public Library of New South Wales, Macquarie Street, Sydney, at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, 10th August, 1960.

Business:

1. Notice convening meeting.
2. Apologies.
3. Minutes of the 21st Annual Meeting held on 27th August, 1959.
4. Annual report and Statement of Accounts.
5. Appointment of Auditor.
6. General Business.

(Note: This meeting will be followed by a General Meeting of the New South Wales Branch.)

Personnel

MR. J. HORNER has taken up the position of Training Officer at the State Library of Tasmania.

ALLAN ROY HORTON has been appointed as Associate Librarian at the University of New South Wales. He was born in Sydney in 1928, and was educated at Canterbury Boys' High School and graduated in Arts from the University of Sydney. He joined the staff of the Public Library of New South Wales in 1944 and had experience in most departments of the library.

He was seconded from the Public Library as Librarian to the Scientific Investigation Bureau of the N.S.W. Criminal Investigation Department; he then held the position of Librarian of the Adult Education Section of the Public Library; and then again was seconded as Librarian to the N.S.W. Film Council. Finally, he was appointed Archives Officer in charge of the Archives Department of the Public Library in 1953.

During 1959-60 Mr. Horton was seconded to the N.S.W. Public Service Board as an Organization and Methods Investigator.

Mr. Horton has been active in the L.A.A. He has served as Secretary of the N.S.W. Branch, Representative Councillor for the Archives Section, and is at present the Secretary of the Archives Section.

MARGARET M. LUNDIE, B.A., formerly Librarian of the W. D. Scott & Co. Library, has been appointed Second-in-Charge of the Public Services Department in the Sydney University Library.

DR. ARCHIBALD GRENFELL PRICE, C.M.G. D. Litt., has been appointed Chairman of the National Library Council for the first three years of its existence.

Dr. Grenfell Price, who is a South Australian, was a Member of the Common-

wealth Parliament from 1941 to 1943. He is a geographer and historian and the author of several books.

In 1936 he was appointed to report on libraries in South Australia, maintained or assisted by the State, and he was also a member of the Paton Committee which produced the report on the National Library. He was for many years a member of the Library Board of South Australia.

At present Dr. Grenfell Price is Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Commonwealth Literary Fund. He recently resigned from the Secretaryship of the Humanities Research Council.

MR. F. A. SHARR, Librarian, State Library of Western Australia, attended the joint conference of the American Library Association and the Canadian Library Association in Montreal in June, 1960.

As a member of our Association's Board of Examination Mr. Sharr discussed Education for Librarianship with colleagues in North America.

EOIN HOWITT WILKINSON has been appointed Reference Librarian at the Library of the University of New South Wales.

Mr. Wilkinson, born 1926, graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts (Honours in History) from the University of Sydney in 1948. In that year he completed the Library School course of the Public Library of New South Wales, being appointed to the staff of that library in January, 1949. He was seconded as Librarian of Hawkesbury Agricultural College 1951-53, and Librarian of the New South Wales Department of Agriculture, 1953-60. In 1957-58 he studied at the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago on a university scholarship. Whilst in the United States he was awarded a travel grant by the Carnegie Corporation of New York to visit research libraries.

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R. C. SHARMAN

Archivist, State Library of Queensland.

Perhaps I should apologise for writing on a subject which has received possibly too much airing over recent years. However, in the discussion of this subject, statements have been made which are open to challenge, and I am all the more concerned because some of these statements are made in a book which is in the reading-list for the Registration Examination subject *Archives, with special reference to Australia*.

I refer particularly to statements made by Mr. D. S. Macmillan, Archivist at the University of Sydney, at the Summer School of Archives held at that University in 1957, and included among the papers published in the volume issued as a result of that School, *Archives; techniques and functions in a modern society*.

Mr. Macmillan states (p. 39): "This connection [of archives institutions] with libraries is probably the biggest retarding factor in Australian archives development today."

On what precise grounds Mr. Macmillan bases this judgment I do not know. He does not usefully elaborate on the point, except to state that, archival provision being only one of the many functions of a State library, only a fraction of the institution's funds will be devoted to it and (by implication) an unjustly small fraction at that.

The separation of the field of archives work from the library world needs to be treated on two levels—the institutional and the professional. Reasonable argument cannot sustain the view that all association between archivists and librarians is *per se* a bad thing, merely because some archivists do not see eye-to-eye with some librarians on vital issues. We must recognize that it is a common experience for subordinate officers to criticize their chiefs, and officers of all State archives institutions and, up to the present, those employed by the Commonwealth National Library, are

subordinated in departmental hierarchy to principal librarians. Personal criticism of this type has a cumulative effect, especially when rebellious archivists get together. However, we must not confuse this sort of feeling with any rational case against library control.

The history of library development of archives in Australia deserves close attention. One State after another, and the Commonwealth Government, have found that archives can only successfully be developed under the aegis of the library system. It is somewhat futile to speculate on what might be the present situation had conditions developed otherwise. Librarians can point to what has been achieved. The slow progress made in establishing archives institutions separate from library control in other countries gives little assurance that things might have been better under another dispensation. I know of no evidence that librarians have applied library methods of classification and arrangement to archives material in Australia. They have, it is true, in some cases implemented library methods of description and a library type of finding-aid. However, these early experiments have failed, and a new start is being made in States which attempted them.

As one who has been involved in the development of an archives programme in two States, I feel I can speak from experience concerning the implementation of archives work as part of a library administration. To begin with, let me mention two disadvantages. In the first place, I find that departmental officers are often hesitant to transfer to a library their public records, especially if they have any degree of confidentiality. This is understandable, especially when libraries are thought of as places where all shelves are subject to open access. There is the additional difficulty that some State libraries are controlled by trustees, who would presumably have the

right normally to determine who shall have access to all materials in their library. This is not a problem I have encountered, and presumably archivists who serve libraries governed in this way have found a way around it. The public servant who pictures his confidential staff files being placed on open shelves, or papers relating to his most recent quarrel with the public service commissioner being shown in glass cases as part of an exhibition on public maladministration, can normally be reassured, however. The archivist needs, admittedly, to educate the administrator in the system by which confidentiality can be guaranteed, and restricted access provided, for records transferred to the archives department of a public library. It is doubtful if his task would be any less difficult, moreover, if he were attached to another department, such as a public service board or a premier's department. In view of the suspicion and resentment often felt towards these latter instrumentalities by less favoured or less influential departments, his job may even be more difficult under these circumstances.

The second difficulty I have encountered is a minor one. In dealings with local government authorities, I often discover I am a fool rushing in, librarians having trodden before. In many instances an archivist finds that bad relationships have been engendered between his employing authority and a local government body, not over a purely administrative matter like the disposal of local public records, but over the largely political issue of the projected establishment of a free library service. Once again, initial coolness dissolves with the exercise of tact and the careful explanation of the archivist's mission. The harmony thus achieved is, incidentally, often beneficial to the whole library administration. Local government officials, traditionally conservative, are often reassured as to the methods and programme of the library, and derive some comfort from the knowledge, gained through contact with archivists, that not all library employees are Oxford-accented males or emancipated females.

Against these two eradicable disadvantages of the library connection may be set the many undoubted advantages. The first

lies in the qualifications which librarians have demanded archivists should have. It is interesting to note that in several instances chief librarians have asked archivists to possess higher qualifications for their posts than were required for appointment to the chief librarianship itself. Almost without exception, State archivists have been required to be graduates. The overall result of this policy will lift archives-keeping to a professional level which will stand it in good stead in years to come. In view of the tendency of State governments to appoint "friends of the party" to all sorts of miscellaneous positions, it is fortunate indeed that there has been this enlightened safeguard over appointment to the higher posts in archives work in Australia. Unfortunately, librarians have too often coupled with this requirement an additional one that applicants must possess the Registration Certificate of the Library Association. I shall deal with this aspect when I come to consider the need for recognition of a separate profession in archive work.

As members of State library staffs, archivists have been able to draw upon the immense bookstock of their parent institutions, both for background reading in administrative and political history, and as an ancillary source of information in dealing with the enquiries which are inevitably directed to the archivist. These sources of information in the printed form would, presumably, have been made available to the archivist no matter to whose department he was attached. But their ready availability, and the possibility of using such sets of official printed serials as the gazettes, parliamentary papers and Hansards in close integration with the rest of the archives programme is not an advantage lightly to be dismissed.

While archives institutions are small and comparatively unknown, it is impossible to conceive of their surviving except under the wing of a more firmly-entrenched agency of the State such as a public library. Librarians share with archivists a certain idealism in their common dedication to the cause of education in its widest sense. They each have, or need to have, a sense of vocation, and a willingness to serve the

public, which contrast sharply with the attitudes of many so-called public servants. Where their spheres of activity diverge, as they do in such fields as records management, the chief librarian should be able to show sufficient intelligence to admit that his archivist is dealing with matters with which he, the librarian, is most unfamiliar. He should nevertheless admit that this field is a legitimate one for the archivist, and it should prove to be one in which the latter knows he has his chief's support.

On the level of professional standards and status, many archivists feel that they have a legitimate grievance, and this deserves the attention of the Library Association's Board of Examination. Professional membership in the Association is denied to those who have not attained the Registration Certificate or its equivalent. Most of the subject coverage of this examination, including the compulsory subjects, is of little or no use in the practice of the archival professional. Yet the Association claims to be able to speak for archivists as well as librarians.

Similarly, in calling for applicants to fill archives positions, some libraries insist upon demanding that applicants either possess or study for library examinations. This limits the field so drastically that recruitment to the profession in States where this applies is almost at a standstill. Librarians may say that the initiative lies with archivists to provide a better standard of qualification for those recruited to their ranks. However, this renders nugatory the claim that librarians by their protection are shepherding into existence the young and inexperienced craft of archives.

In a library hierarchy, the archivist is placed, at best, on a par with other section-heads such as the officer-in-charge of a reference library or special collection, the chief cataloguer, etc. This situation is scarcely tolerable now, and will become decreasingly so as archives development proceeds. The archivist has a responsibility towards the records of every branch of the government. In a State archives, he has frequently a duty towards records of local government bodies and semi-government agencies throughout the State. He must be able to talk records disposal programmes

with heads of public authorities on a footing as nearly as possible of equality. He is frequently the head of a research and reference service second only in importance to the reference library. As he enters the records management field his service attains an importance to the government he serves out of all proportion to the importance of any one other section of the library. There is a case, I feel, for lifting the status of the position of archivist to one of parity with the deputy principalship. The State librarian who first has the courage to do this will probably achieve for his archives department a position of permanency within the library administration which will set a standard for other States.

Finally, one might ask the question, "Why are archivists so restless under the present dispensation?" The answer lies in the situation itself. Within the Library Association, for instance, no other section is so predisposed by its very constitution to throw off librarians' control. The University Librarians, for instance, would hardly be expected to want to divorce themselves from the library profession, for they are part of it. This is not the case with the archivist. When the Library Association comes to recognize the separateness of the two professions, the widely differing standards of training required, the differing types of personalities the two callings will attract, and the distinctive avenues of service to which the two professions devote themselves, then there will be a possibility that the two may live in harmony in the one Association.

Another source of discontent is the existence of a small but growing group of archivists who are appointed to posts in universities, banks and commercial and industrial houses, and are not subject to the authority of librarians. These people often command a salary beyond the wildest dreams of the State-appointed archivist. This tendency represents a challenge, not only to the library connection, but to the integrity of the archival profession itself. It encourages the growth of a group who, not being subject to the older sanctions, express views as representing all archivists when they are, in fact, the views of a minority only. The dangers of a decline

in standard of appointment in this group are also apparent. Business houses are not obliged to appoint graduates to these posts, nor even to ensure that their appointees have any previous experience. The word archivist is increasingly losing its meaning as well-intentioned but unqualified persons are being appointed archivists by religious groups and other voluntary organizations.

It would be fatal if members of the archival profession accepted the leadership of an untrained and inexperienced set of promoted records clerks and self-styled archivists, merely because they cannot see adequate recognition being granted them in the near future in the professional association with which they have most in common.

Best Australian Books of the Year 1959

The judges for the Australian Book Publishers Association's annual competition included 18 of the 72 books submitted in the Eighth Annual Exhibition of Australian Book Production. The Judges' Report on the books submitted, reads as follows:—

"The judges are unanimously of the opinion that the entries this year are much in advance of those of other years, which they have seen. The most noticeable progress is in the general technical improvement of machining. Next is the overall improvement in the design of the book jackets and to some extent the covers of the books. Especially commendable are the books which have used a purely typographic style. To be successful these jackets need extreme care, both in the choice of their type faces and in its careful distribution and lay-out.

"There has been a marked improvement in the firmness of the bindings and of the blocking used on them. The books, which are most outstanding seem, in the opinion of the judges, to have had a controlling hand throughout their production. The judges would like to stress that they feel that a book can only be of first rate quality when some person has co-ordinated each detail of the production. Various panels of judges have stressed this aspect over the years, but the present panel feels that this

is one important aspect in which publishers might improve the general appearance and design of their books.

"The judges were disappointed in the small number of books sent in for the Children's Books and School Text Books Sections.

"This latter category has always received very poor attention from book publishers, although it obviously offers one of the very best opportunities to inculcate in people the best examples of typography and production. Text books in themselves are expensive to produce and very little more would be needed to do them really well.

"There has been a noticeable improvement in the standard of paper and in the appropriateness of its use. The judges recommend that, as the choice of the Best Books of the Year has already begun to improve the technical standard of production, the Association might well consider a much wider recognition on the public level of the books chosen each year as outstanding productions."

The books selected will be included in the National Book League's International Book Design Exhibition, as representing Australian book production.

Libraries could well feature a display of the books, and should write to the Australian Book Publishers' Association for

copies of the booklet which comments on each book chosen.

The books are:—

Gillett, K. & McNeill, F. *The Great Barrier Reef and Adjacent Isles*. Coral Press Pty. Ltd. 70/-.

Carney, C. *International Interiors and Design*. Angus & Robertson Ltd. 84/-.

McArthur, Mrs. K. *Queensland Wild-flowers*. Jacaranda Press Pty. Ltd. 22/6.

Simpson, C. *Wake up in Europe*. Angus & Robertson Ltd. 37/6.

Cowen, Z. *Federal Jurisdiction in Australia*. Oxford University Press. 40/-.

Coulson, H. *Story of the Dandenongs*. F. W. Cheshire Pty. Ltd. 63/-.

Irwin, W. W. *Gambols in Gastronomy*. Angus & Robertson Ltd. 25/-.

Reay, M. *The Kuma — Freedom and Conformity in the New Guinea Highlands*. Melbourne University Press. 45/-.

Hemphill, R. *Fragrance and Flavour — The Growing and Use of Herbs*. Angus and Robertson Ltd. 16/-.

Pownall, E. *Mary of Maranoa — Tales of Australian Pioneer Women*. F. H. Johnston Publishing Co. Pty. Ltd. 32/6.

Fogarty, Brother R. *Catholic Education in Australia, 1806-1950* — 2 vols. Melbourne University Press. £5.

Lawler, J. R. *Form and Meaning in Valery's Le Cimetiere Marin*. Melbourne University Press. 5/-.

Lear, M. *Dangerous Holiday*. Angus & Robertson Ltd. 16/-.

Sidney, N. *Saturday Afternoon*. F. W. Cheshire Pty. Ltd. 22/6.

Wallace-Crabbe, C. *The Music of Division*. Angus & Robertson Ltd. 9/6.

Gardner, R. *Australian Cattle Stations*. Oxford University Press. 3/9.

James, B. (Editor). *Selected Australian Stories*. Oxford University Press. 12/6.

Modelski, G. A. *Atomic Energy in the Communist Bloc*. Melbourne University Press. 30/-.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR LIBRARIANS IN CANADA

Official Statement from the Council of the Canadian Library Association — Association Canadienne des Bibliothèques.

In accordance with previously adopted resolutions of the Canadian Library Association — Association Canadienne des Bibliothèques, the Council of the above organization, meeting in Ottawa in November, 1959, restated its position in regard to the certification of professional librarians:

No one will be recognized by the Canadian Library Association — Association Canadienne des Bibliothèques as a fully qualified professional librarian in Canada unless he holds the equivalent of the B.A. degree as granted in Canada, plus proof of library training equivalent to that required for the Bachelor of Library Science Degree (B.L.S.) in Canada or Master of Library Science Degree (M.L.S.) in the United States of America. The Arts degree must represent at least three years of university education beyond senior matriculation from a secondary school.

Those persons with less training who may accept positions in Canada are advised that their professional advancement may be limited by the implications of the above statement.

The Canadian Library Association—Association Canadienne des Bibliothèques will welcome librarians from abroad. However, it is only fair that librarians considering a move to Canada should be fully aware of the Canadian Library Association—Association Canadienne des Bibliothèques position and should be prepared either to accept positions within these limitations or to take further general and professional education to meet these standards.

Room 606, 63 Sparks Street, OTTAWA, Canada.

A List of Basic Reference Material

compiled by B. W. SARGENT, A.L.A., and W. L. BROWN, A.L.A.

This list was compiled as an offshoot of the efforts being made at Fairfield Municipal Library to build up a basic reference collection. Since a fair amount of research went into the project and since there does not seem to be any published list of similar scope, it was decided to make this work available for the benefit of other librarians.

Thanks are extended to the Secretary and staff of the Library Board of New South Wales for their co-operation. Much use was made of Dr. Walford's *Guide to reference material* and the collection at the Public Library of New South Wales was also utilized. Dr. E. F. Kunz, of the Mitchell Library, was of great assistance in advising us on the selection of maps. As his article "Maps for small and medium size municipal and shire libraries" (*Australian Library Journal*, vol. 9, no. 2, April, 1960) has already dealt with the subject, we do not include maps in this list, but refer readers to his article.

It must be borne in mind that the scope has been inhibited by the problems of the Fairfield Municipal Library system, many of which (in particular lack of funds) will be common to other public libraries. Though obvious, it should be emphasized that there has been a strong New South Wales metropolitan bias.

Foreign language dictionaries have been omitted from the list entirely as it was felt that requirements would vary considerably and since dictionaries for the major languages are well known. Walford's *Guide to reference material* is a useful aid to selection in this field.

A Dewey type arrangement was originally considered but found to be too inflexible. The final decision was largely dictated by the material and the deficiencies of the arrangement are realized, but it is hoped that this will not detract from the usefulness of the list.

In general out-of-print works have been excluded; those included appear because we feel that they are essential items which most libraries would already have in stock and to exclude them would have been a deficiency. Several items which might have been expected to appear here have been excluded because we regard them as being out-of-date, e.g., *Directory of adult education in New South Wales, 1946*. Prices have been given in Australian currency (in shillings) wherever possible. In all other cases the currency is stated. In a few cases the prices had not been obtained at the time of going to press.

Whenever the frequency of publication is indicated in the list it has been assumed that standing orders would be placed and that certain works would be filed permanently, e.g., *Wisden's*; *Who's who in Australia*.

While we do not regard this list as being in any way definitive, we do feel that it represents a minimum collection. Bearing in mind the rapid growth in population there is a consequent need to lay the foundations of a reference collection at an early stage in the development of the library service. Suggestions and corrections are invited, and it is hoped that discussion and argument will result in library circles.

ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND GENERAL WORKS

- ALLEN, E. F. Dictionary of abbreviations and symbols. London, Cassell, 1949. 11/3.
- The AUSTRALIAN encyclopaedia; editor-in-chief Alec H. Chisholm. Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1958. 10v. 1,000/-.
- BUTTRESS, F. A. World list of abbreviations of scientific, technological and commercial organisations. London, Leonard Hill, 1954. 29/-.
- CHAMBERS'S encyclopaedia. Lond., Newnes, 1955. 15v. £68/5/0 (Stg.).
- ENCYCLOPAEDIA Britannica. London & Chicago, Encyclopaedia Britannica, Annual printings. 25v. 2,990/-.

AND

- BRITANNICA book of the year, 1938-. London & Chicago. Encyclopaedia Britannica, Annual. 125/-.

It is understood that Public Libraries in Britain can now obtain 'Encyclopaedia Britannica' on a subscription basis. This service is being investigated by the Sydney agents of the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

- GUINNESS book of records. 3rd ed. London, Guinness Superlatives Ltd., 1958. 17/6.

- HENDERSON, G. P. comp. Reference manual of directories; an annotated list, index and guide to the directories of all countries. Part 14, Australasia. London, Jones & Evans' Bookshop Ltd., 70 Queen Victoria St., E.C.4., 1958. 23/5.

All works listed in the above relating to Australia should be in the stock of the Public Library of New South Wales.

- KEESING'S contemporary archives; weekly diary of world events. Bristol, Keesing, July 1931-. 172/7 yearly subscription.

- OXFORD junior encyclopaedia. London O.U.P., 1948-1956. 13v. 602/-.

It is not the intention to include in this list children's reference books, but this work has been included because of its usefulness as a general encyclopaedia.

- The PRESS directory of Australia and New Zealand. 14th ed. Sydney, Country Press Ltd., 1958. 30/-.

- WALFORD, A. J., ed. Guide to reference material. London, Library Association, 1959. 129/6.

GENERAL BIBLIOGRAPHIES

- AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH NATIONAL LIBRARY. Annual catalogue of Australian publications. 1937-. gratis.

- AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH NATIONAL LIBRARY. Australian books: a select list of works about or published in Australia. 1949-. Annual. gratis.

Includes standard works in print.

- AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH NATIONAL LIBRARY. Australian government publications. 1952-. Monthly. gratis.

- AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH NATIONAL LIBRARY. Books published in Australia; list of books supplied to the National Library, Canberra under copy-

right. 1946-. Monthly. gratis.

The above two works have been included because of their usefulness in book selection prior to the publication of the Annual catalogue of Australian publications.

- The CUMULATIVE book index; world list of books in the English language. N.Y., Wilson, 1898-. Price on service basis of annual expenditure on books.

While the value of the B.N.B. and Whitaker's C.B.L., etc., are realised, the C.B.I. has been listed as the most valuable single bibliographical tool when a library can only afford to purchase one work of this nature.

- FERGUSON, J. A. Bibliography of Australia. Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1941- v. 1- (In progress.) V. 1, 1784-1830, 1941, o.p.; v. 2, 1831-1838, 1945, o.p.; v. 3, 1839-1845, 1951. 126/-; v. 4, 1846-1850, 1955. 189/-.

RELIGION

Bibles

- BIBLE. AUTHORISED VERSION. (Including Apocrypha.) Various editions.

- BIBLE. DOUAI VERSION. Various editions.

- BIBLE. KNOX TRANSLATION. The Holy Bible, translated from the Latin Vulgate by Ronald Knox. London, Burns & Oates, 1956. 51/6.

Directories

- AUSTRALASIAN Catholic directory . . . official ecclesiastical directory for Australia, New Zealand and Oceania, including an alphabetical list of the clergy of Australia and New Zealand . . . Sydney, St. Mary's Cathedral. Annual. 15/6.

- CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF NEW SOUTH WALES. Year book. Sydney, 250 Pitt Street. Annual. 15/6.

- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA. Year book. Melbourne, Board of Religious Education, 147 Collins Street. Annual. 6/-.

- YEAR book of the Diocese of Sydney [Anglican]. Sydney, William Andrews, 433 Kent Street. Annual.

Reference Books

- BLACK'S Bible dictionary, compiled by M. S. Miller and J. L. Miller. London, Black, 1954. 42/-.

- CROSS, F. L., ed. The Oxford dictionary of the Christian Church. London, O.U.P., 1957. 90/9.

- CRUDEN, A. A complete concordance to the Old and New Testament . . . with . . . a concordance to the Apocrypha. 3rd ed. London, Warne, 1769 [195-?]. 41/6.

- FERM, V., ed. An encyclopaedia of religion. London, Owen, 1956. 90/9.

- MCCABE, T. A rationalist encyclopaedia: a book of reference on religion, philosophy, ethics and science. 2nd ed. London, Watts, 1950. 10/6 (Stg.).

- PEAKE, A. S., ed. A commentary on the Bible. London, Nelson, 1948. 12/6 (Stg.).

- SYKES, E., comp. Everyman's dictionary of non-classical mythology. London, Dent, 1952. 29/9.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Yearbooks

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS. Official year book of the Commonwealth of Australia. Canberra, Govt. Printing Office. 1908- . Annual. 10/-.

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS. New South Wales Office. Official year book of New South Wales. Sydney, Govt. Printer. Annual. Gratis.

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS. Queensland Office. Official year book of Queensland. Brisbane, Govt. Printer. Annual. Gratis.

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS. Victorian Office. Victorian year book. Melbourne, Govt. Printer. Annual.

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS. Western Australian Office. Official year book of Western Australia. Perth, Govt. Printer. Annual.

N.B. No official year books are published for South Australia and Tasmania. See below under heading STATISTICS.

GREAT BRITAIN. CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION. Britain, an official handbook. London, H.M.S.O. Annual. 19/9 paper.

PACIFIC Islands year book. Sydney, Pacific Publications, 1956. 35/-.

STATESMAN'S year book: statistical and historical annual of the states of the world. London, Macmillan. Annual. 73/-.

WHITAKER'S almanack . . . London, Whitaker. Annual. 31/-.

THE WORLD almanac and book of facts. N.Y. New York World-Telegram. Annual. 34/3

Statistics

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS. National income and expenditure. Canberra, Govt. Printer. Annual. 1/6.

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS. New South Wales Office. Handbook of local statistics. Sydney, Govt. Printer. Annual.

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS. New South Wales Office. New South Wales pocket year book. Sydney, Govt. Printer. Annual. Gratis.

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS. New South Wales Office. Statistical Bulletin of New South Wales. Sydney, Govt. Printer. Quarterly. 1/6.

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS. South Australian Office. Statistical Register of

South Australia. Adelaide, Govt. Printer. Annual.

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS. Tasmanian Office. Statistics of Tasmania. Hobart, Govt. Printer. Annual.

The above two works are listed as no official year books are issued for South Australia or Tasmania.

AUSTRALIA in facts and figures. Melbourne, Australian News and Information Bureau, 1943- . Quarterly. Gratis.

Politics and Government

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH NATIONAL LIBRARY. Parliamentary handbook and record of elections for the Commonwealth of Australia. 13th ed. Canberra, Govt. Printer, 1959. 42/-.

AUSTRALIA. DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. Consular representatives and trade commissioners in Australia. Canberra, Govt. Printer. Half-yearly. Gratis.

AUSTRALIA. DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. Diplomatic list. Canberra, Govt. Printer. Quarterly. Gratis.

AUSTRALIA. DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. List of permanent missions overseas. Canberra, Govt. Printer. Monthly. Gratis.

AUSTRALIA. PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT. Federal guide: a handbook of the organisation and functions of Commonwealth government. Canberra, Govt. Printer, 1958. o.p.

— — Names Supplement. 4/-.

Consideration is being given to issuing a new Federal Guide, probably in a different format, late in 1960.

BLUETT, A. R. Local government handbook . . . 6th ed. edited by J. W. Every-Burns. Sydney, Law Book Co., 1959. 30/-.

NEW SOUTH WALES. DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT. List of municipalities . . . shires . . . country districts . . . urban areas. Sydney, Govt. Printer. Annual. Gratis.

Lists Mayors, Presidents and Chairmen of authorities and most senior officers (but not librarians).

NEW SOUTH WALES. PARLIAMENT. The New South Wales Parliamentary Record. 19th ed. Sydney, Govt. Printer, 1957. 2v.

Economics, Commerce and Industry

AUSTRALIA. POSTMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE. Post Office guide. Canberra, Govt. Printer, 1955-57. 2v. o.p. (Reprinting - due July 1960).

v. 2 is a most comprehensive list of Australian place-names.

AUSTRALIA. POSTMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE. Telephone directories. New South Wales—Sydney Alphabetical; Sydney Classified; and seven country sections (A.C.T. included in Section 4). Queensland—Brisbane; and four country sections. South Australia.

Tasmania.

Victoria—Melbourne Alphabetical; Melbourne Classified; and six country sections. Western Australia—Perth, including Fremantle and southern districts; and north-western section.

Northern Territory.

A complete set is obtainable from State Head Office. Prices vary between 9d. and 3/-.

The "DIGEST" year book of public companies of Australia and New Zealand. Jobson's Publications. Annual. 84/-.

Includes a directory of directors.

MERCANTILE directory of Australia and New Zealand; classified directory of exporters, importers, professions, merchants, manufacturers . . . Sydney, Australian Interstate and New Zealand Publishing Co. Annual. 115/-.

OFFICIAL industrial directory. Sydney, Trade Union Publicity, Trades Hall, Goulburn Street, 1956.

An alphabetical list of trade unions, with notes on medical and social services.

The OXFORD economic atlas of the world. 2nd ed. London, O.U.P., 1959. 62/-.

RAILWAY timetables.

Obtainable gratis on standing order as published from individual State Head Offices.

UNIVERSAL BUSINESS DIRECTORIES (AUST.) PTY. LTD. Universal business directory . . . Sydney. Published for the following areas:—

New South Wales—Sydney; Central and Southern; New England, North and North-West.

Queensland—Brisbane; North Central; Southern.

South Australia—Adelaide; Country.

Tasmania.

Victoria—Melbourne; Country, East; Country, West.

Western Australia—Perth and Fremantle; Country.

Northern Territory.

These directories are also very useful as gazetteers. The prices vary from 25/- to 37/6 each.

YORKSTON, R. Keith. The Australian commercial dictionary, being definitions of accounting, business and legal words, phrases and abbreviations. 3rd ed. Sydney Law Book Co., 1957. 27/6.

Law

EDWARDS, D. S. An outline of the duties of Justices of the Peace in New South Wales. 6th ed. by G. H. McKay and I. G. Tyson. Sydney, Law Book Co., 1954. 17/6.

JOSKE, P. E. The Law and procedure at meetings in Australia and New Zealand: a concise guide . . . 3rd ed. Sydney, Law Book Co., 1954. 17/6.

LAW list of Australia and New Zealand. Sydney, Butterworth. Annual. 32/6 pre-publication; 42/- post-publication.

Contains some useful legal information.

SCOTT, O. R. You and the law. N.S.W. ed.

Stanmore, Gold Medal Publications, 1958. 10/-.

Education

ARMIDALE. UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND. Calendar. Annual.

AUSTRALIA. DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE. Careers leaflets. Gratis.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY. CANBERRA. Calendar. Annual. Gratis.

NEW SOUTH WALES. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. List of schools and inspectorates. Annual. Gratis.

NEW SOUTH WALES. DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND INDUSTRY. Youth Welfare Section. Careers leaflets. Gratis.

NEW SOUTH WALES. DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION. Handbook. Annual. Gratis.

SYDNEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE. Students' handbook. Annual. Gratis.

SYDNEY. UNIVERSITY. Calendar. Annual. 7/6.

SYDNEY. UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES. Calendar. Annual. 8/-.

Folklore, Customs, Etc.

FUNK and Wagnall's standard dictionary of folklore, mythology and legend. N.Y., Funk & Wagnall, 1949-50. 2v. 205/3 the set.

HAZELTINE, M. E. Anniversaries and holidays; a calendar of days and how to observe them. 2nd ed. Chicago, American Library Association, 1944. o.p.

OPIE, I., and OPIE, P., ed. The Oxford dictionary of nursery rhymes. London, O.U.P., 1952. 55/6.

POST, Emily. Etiquette . . . 9th ed. N.Y., Funk & Wagnall, 1955. \$5.

SMITH, W. G., comp. The Oxford dictionary of English proverbs . . . 2nd ed., revised by Sir Paul Harvey. London, O.U.P., 1952. 67/6.

Miscellaneous.

BRUHN, W. and TILKE, M. A. A pictorial history of costume . . . London, Zwemmer, 1955. 151/3.

DIRECTORY of Social Service agencies. 3rd ed. Sydney, Council of Social Services of New South Wales, 1957. 10/6.

DORLING, H. T. and GUILLE, L. F. Ribbons and medals; naval, military, air force and civil. Rev. and enl. ed. London, Philip, 1957. 34/9.

EDWARDS, T. J. Standards, guidons and colours of the Commonwealth forces. Aldershot, Gale and Polden, 1953. 49/9.

GIBBONS, Stanley, Ltd. Priced postage stamp catalogue. London, Gibbons. 3v. Dated one year ahead. Pt. 1 annual, pts. 2 & 3 in alternate years. Pt. 1, 37/3, Pt. 2, 46/-; Pt. 3, 43/6.

GREAT BRITAIN. ADMIRALTY. Flags of all

nations. London, H.M.S.O., 1955-. v.1-v.1, National flags and ensigns, 1955, £3/10/0 (Stg.). v.2, Standards of rulers, sovereigns and heads of states . . ., 1959, £7/10/0 (Stg.). v.3, Flags of public bodies, badges of territories, colonies, etc., in preparation. Loose-leaf. Amendments issued.

LANGUAGES

English Language

COLLINS, V. H. A book of English idioms, with explanations. 3rd ed. London, Longmans, 1958. 19/3.

COLLINS, V. H. A second book of English idioms. London, Longmans, 1958. 20/9.

FOWLER, H. H. A dictionary of modern English usage. London, O.U.P., 1926. 22/6.

MURRAY, Sir J. A. H. and others, eds. A new English dictionary on historical principles . . . London, O.U.P., 1933. 13v. 1720/-.

"The OXFORD English dictionary"

OR

LITTLE, W. and others, ed. The shorter Oxford English dictionary on historical principles. 3rd ed. rev. and eds. by C. T. Onions. London, O.U.P., 1955. 1 or 2v. editions. £6/6/- (Stg.).

PARTRIDGE, Eric. A dictionary of slang and unconventional English. 3rd ed. London, Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1949. £3/3/- (Stg.).

PARTRIDGE, Eric. A dictionary of the underworld, British and American. London, Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1949. 72/-.

PARTRIDGE, Eric. Usage and abuse; a short guide to good English. 5th ed. rev. and enl. London, Hamilton, 1957. £1/1/- (Stg.).

WEBSTER'S dictionary of synonyms . . . with antonyms . . . London, Bell, 1951. 75/-.

Australian English

AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING COMMISSION. STANDING COMMITTEE ON SPOKEN ENGLISH. A guide to the pronunciation of Australian place names. Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1957. 30/-.

BAKER, S. J. The Australian language . . . Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1945. o.p.

BAKER, S. J. Australia speaks; a supplement to "The Australian language". Sydney, Shakespeare Head, 1953. 42/-.

BAKER, S. J. A popular dictionary of Australian slang. 3rd ed. . . Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1945. o.p.

MORRIS, E. E. Austral English; a dictionary of Australasian words, phrases, and usages . . . London, Macmillan, 1898. o.p.

Australian Aboriginal Word-books

The **AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM. SYDNEY.** New South Wales aboriginal place names and euphonious words, with their meanings; compiled by Frederick D. McCarthy. Sydney, Govt. Printer, 1952. 1/-.

ENDACOTT, Sydney J. comp. Australian aboriginal words and place names and their meanings. 9th ed. Melbourne, Georgian House, 1955. 6/-.

INGAMELLS, R. Australian aboriginal words. Melbourne, Hallcraft, 1955. 7/6.

This is merely a selection and other works are available in this field.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Bibliographies

ASLIB. The Aslib book list . . . London. Monthly. 34/6 p.a.

SMITH, F. Seymour. Know-how books. London, Thames & Hudson, 1956. 42/-.

Directories

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION. Directory of Australian scientific and technical research centres, by G. J. Wylie and N. F. Loew. Melbourne, 1953. o.p.

AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION. Documentation Section. Australian scientific and professional associations; a directory by G. J. Wylie and N. F. Loew. Melbourne, 1951. o.p.

A new publication is under preparation, which will largely replace the above two works and is expected to be available late 1960.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA. SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION. Directory of special libraries in Australia; compiled by Barbara M. Brown, Vera M. Dow, Patricia M. Dunk. Sydney, Library Association of Australia, 1954. 20/-.

New revised and enlarged edition in preparation and expected soon.

MEDICAL directory of Australia. Australian Medical Publishing Co. Ltd. Annual.

Encyclopaedias and Dictionaries

BLACK'S medical dictionary. 23rd ed.; by W. A. R. Thomson. London, Black, 1958. 37/3.

BLACK'S veterinary dictionary; by W. C. Miller and G. P. West. 4th ed. London, Black, 1956. 43/6.

CHAMBERS'S technical dictionary, edited by C. F. Tweney and L. E. C. Hughes. Rev. ed. with supplement. London, Chambers, 1958. 55/6.

ENCYCLOPAEDIA of science and technology. McGraw-Hill. Due to be published in October, 1960 in 15 volumes at approximately 1700/-.

The publishers announce this work as being compiled at high school and undergraduate level.

KINGZETT'S chemical encyclopaedia: a digest of chemistry and its industrial applications. 8th ed. London, Bailliere, Tindall and Cox, 1952, 113/3.

VAN NOSTRAND'S scientific encyclopaedia; . . . 3rd ed. Princeton, N.J., Van Nostrand, 1958. 306/3.

Engineering

AUTOMOBILE engineer's reference book;

general editor E. Molloy. London, Newnes, 1956. 115/6.

ELECTRICAL engineer's reference book; general editor E. Molloy. 9th ed. London, Newnes, 1958. £4 (Stg.).

KEMPE'S engineer's year book. London, Morgan. Annual. 2v. 148/6.

MOTOR SERVICES MAGAZINE. Automotive encyclopaedia, edited by Jud Purvis and William K. Tobold. 3rd ed. Chicago, Goodheart-Willcox Inc., 1958. 90/-.

RADIO and television engineer's reference book; editor J. P. Hawkes . . . 3rd ed. London, Newnes, 1960. 144/3.

Gardening

EDWARDS, R. G. The Australian garden book . . . 2nd ed. Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1958. 50/-.

HERBERT, D. A. Gardening in warm climates. Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 30/-.

LORD, E. E. Shrubs and trees for Australian gardens. 3rd ed. Sydney, Lothian Publishing Co. Pty. Ltd., 1956. 135/-.

Major horticultural works published overseas have been omitted and the three works above are suggested as being indicative of the type of material required for reference.

Miscellaneous

BEETON, Mrs. I. M. Mrs. Beeton's household management. Rev. ed. London, Ward Lock, 1948. £1/15/- (Stg.).

CHAMBERS'S 7-figure mathematical tables . . compiled by James Pryde. College edition. London, Chambers [1959?]. 16/-.

HENLEY'S twentieth century book of formulas, processes and trade secrets, edited by Gardner D. Hiscox. N.Y., Henley, 1955.

JANE'S all the world's aircraft. London, Sampson Low. Annual. 224/-.

JANE'S fighting ships. London, Sampson Low. Annual. 224/-.

THE ARTS

Art

ENCYCLOPAEDIA of world art. 15v. McGraw-Hill, 1959- . v.1-. In progress. 267/6 per vol.

In view of the comprehensiveness of this work and the fact that it will be completed in a few years' time, all other art reference books have been excluded.

Photography

The **FOCAL** encyclopedia of photography. London, Focal Press, 1956. 105/-.

Music

FEATHER, L. The encyclopedia of jazz. N.Y., Horizon Press; London, Barker, 1956. £3/3/- (Stg.).

Covers modern jazz.

GROVE, Sir George, ed. Grove's dictionary of music and musicians. 5th ed., edited by Eric Blom. London, Macmillan, 1954. 9v. 1160/-.

OR

SCHOLES, P. A. The Oxford companion to

music . . . 9th ed. London, O.U.P., 1955. 90/9.

KOBBE, G. Kobbe's complete opera book; edited and revised by the Earl of Harewood. London, Putnam, 1958. 72/-.

PANAISSE, H. and GAUTIER, M. Dictionary of jazz. London, Cassell, 1956. 32/9.

Emphasis on traditional jazz.

SACKVILLE-WEST, E. and SHAW-TAYLOR, D. The Record guide. Rev. ed. London, Collins, 1955. 43/6.

— — Supplement, 1956. 12/6.

Theatre and Ballet

BEAUMONT, C. W. Complete book of ballets . . . 2nd ed. London, Putnam, 1949. 72/-.

— — Supplement, 1952. 41/6.

— — Ballets of today (Second supplement), 1954. 41/6.

— — Ballets past and present (Third supplement), 1955. 41/6.

HARTNOLL, P. The Oxford companion to the theatre. 2nd ed. 1957. 64/9.

SPORT AND GAMES

FOSTER, R. F. Foster's complete Hoyle; an encyclopedia of games. N.Y., Lippincott, 1953. 45/6.

OFFICIAL rules of sports and games, 1957-1958. 2nd ed. London, Kaye, 1957. 18/- (Stg.).

WIDEN cricketers' almanac. London, Sporting Handbooks. Annual. 31/-.

LITERATURE

Encyclopaedias and Dictionaries

BREWER, E. C. Dictionary of phrase and fable. Rev. & enl. ed. London, Cassell, 1952. 39/3.

HART, J. D. The Oxford companion to American literature. 3rd ed. N.Y., O.U.P., 1956. 95/-.

HARVEY, Sir Paul. The Oxford companion to classical literature. London, O.U.P., 1937. 25/-.

HARVEY, Sir Paul. The Oxford companion to English literature. 3rd ed. London, O.U.P., 1946. 55/6.

HARVEY, Sir Paul and HESELTINE, J. E., ed. The Oxford companion to French literature. London, O.U.P., 1959. 64/9.

KUNITZ, S. J. and HAYCRAFT, H., ed. Twentieth century authors. N.Y., Wilson, 1942. 124/-.

— — Supplement, 1955. 116/6.

STEINBERG, S. H., ed. Cassell's encyclopaedia of literature. London, Cassell, 1953. 2v. 95/9.

STEVENSON, B. E. Home book of quotations. 8th ed. London, Cassell, [1956]. 79/6.

Bibliographies

BRITISH DRAMA LEAGUE. The player's library . . . London, Faber, 1950. 49/9.

— — First supplement, 1951. 14/3.

— — Second supplement, 1954. 24/9.

— — Third supplement, 1956. 24/9.

COTTON, G. B. and GLENCROSS, A. Fiction index . . . London, Association of Assistant Librarians, 1953. £1/10/- (Stg.).
— — Fiction index two . . ., 1957. 64/9.

FRENCH, Samuel, Ltd. Guide to selecting plays. London, French. Annual, 8 parts. Gratis.

GARDNER, F. M. Sequels . . . 4th ed. London, Association of Assistant Librarians, 1955. 46/-.

MILLER, E. M. Australian literature; a bibliography to 1938, extended to 1950 . . . Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1956. 84/-.

SMITH, F. S. An English library . . . 4th ed. London, C.U.P. for N.B.L., 1950. o.p.
Devoted to classics.

SMITH, F. S. What shall I read next? London, C.U.P. for N.B.L., 1953. 10/6 (Stg.).
Twentieth century literature up to 1952.

WATSON, G. The concise Cambridge bibliography of English literature, 600-1950. London, C.U.P., 1958. 33/3.

Shakespeare

SHAKESPEARE, William. Complete works (preferably annotated). Various editions.

BARTLETT, J. A new and complete concordance . . . to Shakespeare. London, Macmillan, 1956. 172/9.

ATLASES AND GAZETTEERS

See also Universal Business Directories under heading ECONOMICS, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

AUSTRALIA. DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL RESOURCES. Atlas of Australian resources [with commentaries]. Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1953-. Loose-leaf. In progress.

The COLUMBIA Lippincott gazetteer of the world; edited by Leon E. Seitzer . . . N.Y., Columbia Univ. Press: London, O.U.P., 1952. 715/-.

Although slightly dated this is still the most comprehensive and authoritative single volume gazetteer.

GREGORY'S street directory of Sydney and suburbs, and metropolitan road guide. 25th ed. Sydney, Gregory's Guides and Maps Pty. Ltd., 1960. 21/-.

MUIR, R. and PHILIP, G. Philip's historical atlas, ancient, medieval and modern. 7th ed. London, Philip, 1947. 62/6.

"The TIMES" atlas of the world, mid-century ed., edited by J. Bartholomew. London, "The Times" Publishing Co., 1955-. v.1-. 145/- per vol.; 5v. when complete.
There is NO alternative to this work.

U.S.A. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES. Australia: official standard names approved

by the United States Board on Geographic Names. Prepared in the Office of Geography, Department of the Interior. Washington, U.S. Government Printing Office, 1957. 48/- (Publication 14269, No. 40.)

HISTORY

The CAMBRIDGE history of the British Empire, v.7, pt. 1, Australia. London, C.U.P., o.p.

Although not a reference work, this has been listed as typifying the kind of standard history of Australia essential for reference.

LANGER, W. L. An encyclopedia of world history . . . 3rd ed. London, Harrap, 1956. 73/-.

Arranged in chronological order, with index.

OXFORD classical dictionary, edited by M. Gary [and others]. London, O.U.P., 1949. £2/15/- (Stg.).

NAMES

PARTRIDGE, Eric. Name this child . . . 3rd ed. London, Hamilton, 1951. 16/-.

REANEY, P. H. A dictionary of British surnames. London, Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1958. 70/-.

WITHYCOMBE, E. H., comp. The Oxford dictionary of English Christian names. 2nd ed. London, O.U.P., 1950. 25/-.

BIOGRAPHY

The CONCISE dictionary of national biography. Being an epitome of the main work and its supplements. Pt. 1, From the beginnings to 1900. London, O.U.P., 1953. £3 (Stg.) Pt. 2, 1901-1950. London, O.U.P. (Due to be published 1960.)

HYAMSON, A. M. A dictionary of universal biography of all ages and of all peoples. 2nd ed. London, Routledge, 1951. £4/4/- (Stg.).

Very brief biographical details, but serves as a most comprehensive finding list to further information in other works.

INTERNATIONAL who's who. London, Europa. Annual. 194/3.

The NEW century cyclopedia of names; edited by C. L. Barnhart . . . N.Y., Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1954. 3v. 405/3.

Very wide scope, not restricted to personal names, includes "information about proper names having importance in the English-speaking world".

SERLE, P. Dictionary of Australian biography. Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1949. 2v. 105/-.

WHO'S who . . . London, Black. Annual, 174/9.

WHO'S who in Australia, edited by J. A. Alexander, 16th ed., 1959. Melbourne, Colorgrature Publications, 1959. 105/-.

Australian War Memorial Library Canberra

*Historical Records — Personal**

By VERA BLACKBURN

Keeper of the Printed Records

Within the library is housed a large and priceless collection of records by Diggers, from Generals to Privates.

Their importance as an historical record is invaluable, for many, especially of famous personnel, contain a history in chronological order of both official and personal narrative.

Although the documentary war records of the Australian Military Forces might appear to be adequately covered by the war diaries and other records which have been officially preserved, inspection discloses that the record is rarely perfect and in many important respects is far from being sufficient for use as data by historians and students.

Relative material in this collection was used extensively during the writing of Australia's official history of the 1914-18 War and similar material is being consulted today by the 1939-45 War Historian.

It is impossible in the small space allotted to give a description of all the important and interesting collections and, as much of the 1939-45 War material is still to come, brief particulars of a selection kept by Australia's leaders and personalities connected with the 1914-18 War is given.

PEARCE Collection:

(The Rt. Hon. Sir George F. Pearce,
P.C., K.C.V.O.)

This comprehensive collection of great historical importance consists of personal records mainly relating to the important offices held, in particular to the 1914-18 War during which time Sir George was the Minister for Defence.

The collection as a whole gives an almost complete survey of Defence activities from 1908 including policy, corres-

pondence, memoranda of conferences, reports, &c.

These records, in conjunction with those from the collection on other aspects of national affairs in the custody of the Commonwealth National Library, are a valuable contribution to Australian history.

BEAN Collection:

(Charles Edwin Woodrow Bean, M.A.,
B.C.L. (Oxon), Litt.D. (Melb.))

Diaries and historical notes made during and since the 1914-18 War.

They comprise 283 note books of diaries, written from day to day expressing exactly what was in the writer's mind, and historical notes representing individual impressions formed at the time and interviews with officers and men after battle.

A large number of volumes of letters, cuttings, &c. and of notes made on revisiting Gallipoli in 1919.

They may be said to weigh in historical value about as much as the whole official record of the Australian infantry, each being complementary to the other, and they constitute the only exact record for much that occurred in 1914-18.

MONASH Collection:

(General Sir John Monash, G.C.M.G.,
K.C.B., V.D.)

This large and important collection, given to the Nation in 1949, contains 26 personal files covering correspondence, orders, reports, narratives, notes on conferences, &c. In addition 4 files on Demobilization and 2 books of personal letters written to relatives during the course of the 1914-18 War.

* This is a supplement to the article on the Library which appeared in the Aust. Lib. Jnl., July, 1958.

In Sir John's own words "I have myself preserved a large quantity of documentary material relating to my exercise of the command of the Corps, comprising my drafts of orders, my personal battle plans and fighting maps, and much inward and outward correspondence of a then confidential nature which was never placed on the official files. Of the important Battle Conferences held during the closing phases of the war, these were so secret and confidential that no written records were made or kept."

A considerable amount of this material was loaned to Dr. C. E. W. Bean who made extensive use of these records in the compilation of the official history of the 1914-18 War.

GELLIBRAND Collection:

(Major-General Sir John Gellibrand, K.C.B., D.S.O., V.D.)

Although born in Australia Sir John was educated in England and his early military service was in the British Army. Even though it was not until the outbreak of the 1914-18 War that Gellibrand volunteered for service with the A.I.F. his early records, especially in regard to service in South Africa, are of great interest.

His personal diary of 35 books covers the period 1908 to 1942; in addition there is a book of notes 1903 to 1905 and a confidential war diary beginning on the 20th August, 1914 and ending in March, 1918.

Gellibrand, like Monash, was deeply interested in Repatriation and Demobilization and there is a considerable amount of correspondence on the subject.

The miscellaneous material covers reports and notes on Brigade and Divisional Conferences and First, Second and Third Australian Divisional records.

GRIMWADE Collection:

(Major-General H. W. Grimwade, C.B., C.M.G., V.D.)

From this collection, handed over in 1932, it was possible to add many important papers to the 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery records.

Included were General Grimwade's notes

on Divisional Conferences, reports of 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery and in addition a collection of semi-official correspondence on matters relating to his command.

A particularly valuable contribution is the collection of maps, in many cases annotated with information not otherwise available.

ELLIOTT Collection:

(Major-General H. E. Elliott, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.)

During the 1914-18 War General Elliott entrusted to the keeping of the Australian War Records Section a number of highly confidential private records; after the War he made further records available, and after his death, many records of a similar nature.

As a whole the collection is a substantial one recounting in the fullest possible manner General Elliott's service, including the South African War and, in particular the work of the Australians in France during 1917-18, probably the most momentous years in his career as a soldier.

The records comprise a considerable number of reports of operations, maps and plans, correspondence covering operations and incidents, orders, a personal diary of five volumes—August 1914 to April 1919, and relevant extracts from personal letters covering the period October 1914 to March 1918.

BARRETT Collection:

(Lieut.-Col. Sir James W. Barrett, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., LL.D.)

Some considerable time after the conclusion of the war Sir James began to collect and roughly collate the voluminous collection of records which he had assembled and preserved during his war service.

His work in the War of 1914-18 had two phases: the first in the Australian Army Medical Corps with the A.I.F.; the second with the Royal Army Medical Corps.

At the same time he took a leading part in the Red Cross and the Y.M.C.A. in Egypt of which he wrote a history.

Portion of the collection was presented in 1936 and the remainder in 1943 in

perpetuity to the Nation. It has since been annotated by explanatory notes and comments by Colonel A. G. Butler, the Medical Historian of the 1914-18 War based on his knowledge of the events to which they relate.

As a whole it constitutes a unique collection and supplies documentary evidence for the facts of certain important events during a period which has scarcely been exceeded in importance as a phase in the history of Australia. The field covered is sufficiently wide to bring it within the scope of national as well as of medical and military history. Facts are provided not elsewhere available, in connection with the most interesting stage in the evolution of the British Red Cross Society and in particular of the Australian Branch; and therein of the International Red Cross movement in general.

Lastly this collection supplies important evidence necessary to a just appreciation of the part played at a crisis in Australian history by a great Australian citizen and a distinguished member of the medical profession.

BUTLER Collection:

(Colonel A. G. Butler, D.S.O., V.D., B.S.)

Colonel Butler, recipient of the British Medical Association Gold Medal in 1944

for "Distinguished Service to the Profession and the Nation" was responsible for the official history of the Australian Army Medical Services 1914-18.

He presented his original diary 1915-19, his notes, memoranda, correspondence and reports 1914-18 and 12 note books containing interviews, notes, &c., collected in connection with the writing of the history.

For this purpose he also collected and handed over personal narratives contributed by officers, the majority being A.A.M.C. personnel. It is a unique and valuable collection for it not only records the problems which faced the Medical Services from the special point of view of the A.A.M.C., but personal impressions of activities and events in the field of medical science.

These and many others have given their records to the Nation to be housed in the Australian War Memorial. The ideas which underlay and which determined the form of the Memorial were the original concept of Dr. C. E. W. Bean. To quote in his own words:

"The conception of the Memorial, which has controlled its form ever since the early days, is that it shall say to Australians: 'Here lie those men with the records and relics of their service around them'."

THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW STATE LIBRARY OF TASMANIA

at the corner of Murray and Bathurst Streets was "well and truly laid" by his Excellency the Governor of Tasmania (Lord Rowallan). The ceremony took place under a canvas roof which mercifully kept the hot afternoon sun and much of the dust off the 160 guests. The Hon. the Chief Secretary and the Chairman of the State Library Board spoke on the important advances made by the State Library since the dark days of the Munn-Pitt report. The Chairman of the State Library Board drew special attention to the presence at the function of Colonel Churchill Hale, Chairman of Directors of the V.D.L. Co., London, who had kindly made available to the State Archives all the papers, books and documents of the V.D.L. Company including those of the London office.

Mr. H. L. White, Librarian of the Commonwealth National Library, who had come especially to attend the function, brought greetings and good wishes also from Senator A. M. McMullin, Chairman of the National Library Committee.

Correspondence

Dear Madam,

"The *Unesco bulletin for libraries* is now published at two-monthly intervals instead of eight times a year. This change makes it possible for the size of each annual volume to be increased and the contents improved without increasing the subscriptions rates. This year the *Bulletin* will include a greater number of authoritative articles on current library and documentation problems of international interest, plans and photographs of new library buildings, and digests of the reports of various studies and experiments in the field of librarianship and related activities commissioned by Unesco — for example, a survey of possible alternatives to the scientific periodical by Ralph H. Phelps and John P. Herling, Engineering Societies Library, New York, which appears in the March-April issue; other issues will include an article on libraries in South Asia, by Frank M. Gardner, Borough Librarian, Luton (U.K.), studies of the present position of the Universal Decimal Classification, by Barbara Kyle, Social Sciences Documentation, London and B. C. Vickery, Imperial Chemical Industries, London, a short manual on the efficient organisation and management of documentary reproduction services, by F. Donker Duyvis, The Hague, etc. Also, as in the past, the *Bulletin* will continue to include descriptive articles on library activities in rapidly developing countries.

"The *Bulletin* office welcomes all information concerning activities on libraries and bibliographical and documentation centres in different countries.

"The annual subscription to the *Bulletin* is 17/6 (single copies: 3/6) and orders should be sent to Melbourne University Press, 369 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, C.1 (Victoria)."

Yours very truly,

Sandor Maller,
Head, Section for Bibliography,
Documentation and Exchange of
Publications, Unesco.

Library Board of Western Aust.,
3 Francis Street, Perth.

Dear Madam,

A recent check of the Australian holdings of all periodicals indexed in *Applied Science and Technology Index* and *Business Periodicals Index* shows that the following titles appear not to be taken in any Australian library. All are indexed in one or other of the above indexes.

It would seem desirable that at least one file of each journal indexed in these two indexes should be kept somewhere in Australia. The Library Board of Western Australia is prepared to take out subscriptions for two of the journals, preferably those named below, and I wonder whether other libraries would be prepared to do likewise in order to secure complete coverage.

If any are interested in such a project, small as it is, I should be glad to act as a communication centre, with the object of avoiding needless duplication or the possibility of one or more titles being overlooked.

The Board will take out subscriptions to:
Industrial Photography
Management Methods
unless anyone else wishes to do so.

Yours faithfully,

F. A. SHARR,

State Librarian.

Library Board of Western Aust.

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Bankers' Monthly.
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Best's Insurance News. Life edition.
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New Zealand Libraries After Twenty-five Years

Osborn, Andrew D. *New Zealand Library Resources: a report of a survey made for the New Zealand Library Association under the auspices of the Carnegie Corporation of New York*. Wellington, N.Z.L.A. 1960. 7/6. (N.Z.).

It is not unreasonable that a critic should define his terms of reference and present his credentials. I am asked to review a report on New Zealand Library Resources made for the New Zealand Library Association by Dr. Andrew D. Osborn, Librarian, University of Sydney. From November 1949 until April 1956 I was Librarian at the University of Otago, Dunedin. During those very happy years I was a Council member of the New Zealand Library Association, a member of its Book Resources Committee and its President during 1955-6. I am privileged to be a Fellow of the New Zealand Library Association.

In 1934, Ralph Munn, Director, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, and John Barr, Chief Librarian, Auckland Public Libraries, produced their joint report entitled *New Zealand Libraries: a survey of conditions and suggestions for their improvement*.

This landmark in New Zealand library development was prepared under the auspices of the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Now a little more than a quarter of a century later, Andrew Osborn's survey, also prepared under the same auspices, indicates the Carnegie Corporation's continuing interest in New Zealand's library future.

Dr. Osborn's survey occupies some 70 pages, and is divided into a preface and nine chapters. Chapter one is an historical record of the period from Munn-Barr to Osborn beginning with the course of action recommended by Munn and Barr, — i.e.:—

1. Free library service should take the

place of subscription libraries.

2. Rural library service should be promoted carefully and sympathetically.
3. Standards of professional librarianship should be raised.
4. "A strong Libraries Association" should take the lead in developing the new programme for the country.
5. Good school libraries should be created.
6. The university libraries should be built up in accordance with modern overseas practice.
7. Regional-library systems should be introduced.
8. A National Library should be considered a prime necessity.

After a quarter of a century the accomplishments are very significant but they are no occasion for jubilation. Although the achievements could have been better, I know personally that the effort to achieve these results has been formidable.

In the first place, Free Library service in place of Subscription Service is well established and generally accepted, although the change-over has been very protracted and is still incomplete. Rural library service in the form of the Country Library Service, particularly in areas where local enterprise has been strong enough to take advantage of the opportunities offering, is as good as can be found anywhere. Professional standards have been raised by the establishment of a Library School in Wellington as far back as 1946* and the New Zealand Library Association is a well organized and very energetic body.

Country Library Service began in 1938 and a Schools Library Service was developed three years later. These two services

* The University of New South Wales has established such a post-graduate school only this year. It is my belief that New Zealand is well ahead of Australia in this matter.

have a combined book stock approaching 2,000,000 volumes. In 1945 the National Library Service was established and the present framework appeared: a National Library Service consisting of four divisions — a National Library Centre, a Library School, Country Library Service and School Library Service. The National Library Centre, besides being the country's bibliographical centre, is the purchasing agent for government libraries, including the National Library Service.

Of the remaining four points, Dr. Osborn is of the opinion that while regional development could be just around the corner, the setting up of a National Library has been approved in principle only, while the major weaknesses would seem to be in the Schools and Universities Libraries. So at this stage in the report it seems that points 5-8 of the Munn-Barr programme will form the cornerstone of Dr. Osborn's revelation of library deficiencies in New Zealand.

Before this is underlined, Dr. Osborn rightly points to the public libraries, if only to show what can be done. He describes them as easily the brightest spot in the New Zealand library picture. Children's library services are on the whole very good, and here Dr. Osborn points very firmly to the fact that, unlike Australia, American as well as British juvenilia have helped to round out collections in a very satisfactory manner. Improvement has, however, been uneven. Whereas the successful Country Library Service has been instrumental in bringing library service to isolated communities no less than 42% of New Zealand's largest population area, Auckland, is without any form of library service.*

In 1958 the New Zealand Library Association proposed that unevenness could be removed by regional development.** Dr. Osborn finds this declaration of policy to be sound but with a warning that the National Library Service must continue to be the strength behind regional development — in other words, a continuation of the formula "development largely through local enterprise and national aid in kind".

In chapter 3 Dr. Osborn considers the deficiencies of school libraries. National

aid in the form of the School Library Service has been in operation since 1941, and its 1,000,000 volumes in the form of deposits up to 400 volumes are available to schools, both public and private. On the other hand, the response from the schools themselves is not always there. Dr. Osborn calls for more school librarians as opposed to teacher-librarians, that Teachers' Colleges should play a more active part in underlining the importance of the school library as a teaching medium, and, finally, that the head of the School Library Service should have the rank of Senior Inspector for Libraries, so that, with the support of the Department of Education, approved standards for schools' libraries can be set down and enforced.

University Libraries

The total book resources of New Zealand's four universities after, in one case of more than 75 years of existence, barely top 500,000*** compared with National Library Service holdings of 1,847,190 acquired since 1938. Dr. Osborn unearths a dismal catechism of the inadequacies of the academic collections reaching back to 1911.¹ In 1931 the Carnegie Corporation of New York offered \$5,000 a year for three years to each of the four colleges, provided certain conditions were met. Yet it was not until 1946 that the last of the four University Libraries qualified for the grant.

1945-1958 has been described as "that frustrating period". Arthur Sandall, of Auckland University, wrote that "more books were bought, but, in addition, the kind of material bought was more difficult to acquire . . . new members of an increas-

* New South Wales. Of the total population of 2,054,800 in the metropolitan area, some 27% are without library services. In the whole State approximately 67% of the total population is served by local public libraries.

** It was mooted some time before, *inter alia*, D. M. Wylie, *Public Libraries 1954-1964*. New Zealand Libraries, vol. 17, No. 5, p. 105.

| | Volumes | | Volumes per year | |
|------------------|---------|---------|------------------|---------|
| | 1945 | 1958 | to 1945 | 1946-58 |
| Auckland | 50,000 | 119,000 | 794 | 5,308 |
| Canterbury . . | 80,000 | 120,000 | 1,111 | 3,077 |
| Otago | 90,000 | 158,613 | 1,184 | 5,278 |
| Wellington . . | 58,000 | 105,000 | 1,208 | 3,615 |

What happened before beggars description!

ing teaching staff with new interests, soon introduced new options . . . new departments . . ." At the same time, Keyes Metcalf, with no frills, said: "You have a country large enough for one good University that has four universities, each one naturally wanting to become a great university. Are there funds available for you to do it? Can you build four great research libraries in your university system? From what I have seen and heard it seems to me doubtful if you can, and, if you cannot, what are you going to do about it? That is your problem."

The situation, in this light, has deteriorated now that Palmerston North in the North Island boasts a University College.

The desperation of the University Librarians is evidenced by the inclusion in their submission to the Committee on New Zealand Universities of the need to rationalize advanced and research work in the four universities. Do they really believe that the sacred cow research can be cut down to reasonable size and shape without violent protests and the use of that lovely catchphrase "academic freedom".

There is no doubt that, however important it may be for members of Universities to pursue their own particular line of research, the economics of such privileges really need some kind of enlightened control. But how to implement it?

My own experience in New Zealand does not encourage me to believe that the people and the politicians understand tertiary education. The new university college in Palmerston underlines this, since it provides an added strain on library resources currently acknowledged to be inadequate. It is to be hoped, however, that this new child can be held down to the comparatively modest requirements of a university college. I also have grave doubts myself whether New Zealand librarians, as a whole, care much about university library problems. Certainly not as much as the concern and interest in New Zealand library problems, other than their own, that have been expressed by most New Zealand university librarians in the past. I believe, too, that attempts to bring the

Library School into one of the Universities have failed, partly because of the New Zealand Library Association's lack of confidence in the universities of New Zealand.

In chapter 5 devoted to the Special Libraries, Dr. Osborn emphasises that the coming of secondary industry on a large scale is a prime necessity for the full flowering of special libraries, and also makes proper reference to the impressive special library development within the framework of the D.S.I.R. during the past 30 years. Moreover, he notes a trend towards bringing D.S.I.R. and the universities into closer relationship. If this is the case, then an important change in heart is now under way. Beyond this, the chapter is mainly a descriptive listing of some of the country's special collections.

Of special New Zealand collections as distinct from Special Libraries, there is evidence pointing to a good national collection in Wellington with comprehensive research collections in Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin. Yet in almost every centre there lurks the problem of rationalization. In Auckland the Grey Collection in the Public Library and the Auckland Institute and Museum. In Christchurch the Macmillan Brown Collection in the University, the Hall material at the Public Library and the Johnston Library at the Canterbury Museum. Further south the McNab Collection in the Public Library and the Hocken Library within the University library system. In this third case, Dr. Osborn quotes the existence of an understanding between the two libraries that the collections have agreed to take a century each—Hocken the 19th and McNab the 20th. To my knowledge that "understanding" was rarely, if ever, observed.

It is in Wellington, however, that the problem is most acute, and there can only be general agreement in Dr. Osborn's enunciation that, subject to the maintenance of the separate physical identity of the original Alexander Turnbull bequest, one of the very strong reasons for establishing a National Library is to be found in the tremendous advantages which would ensue from common administration and policy for the complementary New Zealand

Collections now in the Turnbull and General Assembly libraries.

Dr. Osborn is also forthright on the subject of the cataloguing, classification and preservation of New Zealandiana and rightly critical of the existence of uncatalogued New Zealand holdings of consequence. The drift of New Zealand items not held in New Zealand libraries to overseas buyers is quite intolerable, Australia having benefited as much as any other country in recent years.

At this point in his survey, Dr. Osborn turns his attention to the National Library. The history of this vital national collection to be, now approaches fifty years, but there is no need to go back for more than a quarter of a century when Munn and Barr made as their final point in their programme, "the creation of a national library for New Zealand should be undertaken without further delay". The story in brief is that in 1918, when the Alexander Turnbull Library was accepted by the nation, two national collections were in existence — the Turnbull and the General Assembly Library. Then came the Munn-Barr recommendation in 1935, which received the support of the New Zealand Library Association.

When the National Library Service was created in 1945 the country found itself with three national collections, each one responsible to a different Government Department. Two Government Committees of enquiry have examined the problem. On the basis of the report furnished by the Public Service Commission Working Party in 1956, the Government agreed in principle to the establishment of a National Library. The Select Committee which followed endorsed the idea of a National Library, but felt that the cost could not be borne in the immediate future. Its recommendations were as follows:—

- (a) That the National Library be a central body responsible for the control and administration of the three State libraries, and in a general way responsible for the functions of all three libraries:
- (b) That the special nature of the General Assembly Library be con-

tinued as a separate unit and that the functions of the present parliamentary Library Committee be retained . . .

- (c) That the duties and functions of the Alexander Turnbull Library be preserved and continued as a separate unit. If at a later stage all three libraries are together in one building the original collections of Alexander Turnbull, and the natural accretions thereto, should have their identity preserved in a special section . . . to be known as the Alexander Turnbull Collection.
- (d) That the functions of the National Library Service be, in like manner, preserved and developed.

It seems clear that, although the National Library is to become a special section of the Department of Education, with a National Library Advisory Committee, both the General Assembly Library and the Alexander Turnbull Libraries seem to have got away with it, at least for the time being. On page 52 of the report, the Department of Internal Affairs, the agent administratively responsible for the Alexander Turnbull Library, utters in measured, pompous tones:

"The main function of a National Library should be to act as a reference and research institute at a scholarly level. The establishment and operation of libraries to meet the needs of communities for books and material of lighter type, i.e., the normal lending library service, is properly a function of local authorities and should remain so. Any assumption of this function by a National Library, with a consequent need to supply books to the larger libraries in various centres, could only result in a substantial increase in national expenditure."

What utter nonsense in New Zealand, where the most successful part of library service has, to date, been provided by a nice combination of local enterprise and national aid in kind.

On the other hand, the views of the New Zealand Library Service, supported by the National Library Service, that "a national

library, except for special collections and materials, must be a national *lending library*" need very careful definition. The battle cry of some New Zealand librarians, "for *all* the people, *all* the books" is an admirable one, but this phrase must never be regarded as a New Zealand-wide standard, that any person can expect to have access to any book in New Zealand simply by making a request at his nearest library service point.

Of course, Dr. Osborn is right when he urges the immediate creation of a National Library, and is not influenced too much by the Department of Internal Affairs, which argues against such an establishment until there is "a modern building suitably located, appropriately designed and constructed, and of adequate capacity to house the three libraries and their staffs." There is no secret that the emergence of a National Library from the present anomalous position must involve difficult and even painful decisions. The sooner this is done the better, so that the final curtain can be rung down on the formal ballet dance of the three Government Departments and the Librarians associated with the three national collections.

Chapter 8 devoted to Resources and Potentials is less than six pages and is somewhat thin in a report of this importance. I would think that the book resources, the strengths in depth and in coverage, and the need to rationalize book stocks according to requirements at all levels, would be of paramount importance. Important enough to warrant a report in its own right.

Finally, we are presented with a 31-point programme for the future. Here the Munn-Barr emphasis on public-library development is noted. The advent of a more diversified and more industrialised economy, together with an estimated population of 4,000,000 in the not too distant future, demands a more balanced library programme, and this is the main point to be made by Dr. Osborn.

If we look at the points recommended by Munn and Barr twenty-five years ago, we find that, of the eight main recommendations, real progress has been made

in the first four—free library service, rural library service, professional standards, and a strong Library Association. No one will question the great qualities of the Munn-Barr report and the impressive impact it made in New Zealand. Yet the force of that impact has, not unnaturally, been blunted by time. In his report, I feel that Dr. Osborn has seen this and has by skilful means revitalized the tenets of Munn and Barr by breathing new life and enthusiasm in the 1960 manner. Osborn is telling New Zealand Librarians that by completing Munn-Barr, a well balanced library programme will emerge. He tells them to press for better school libraries, to build up the academic collections, to break down the outmoded boundaries of local authorities, and serve regionally, and finally, to sink the differences at the national level and begin to organize the national collections into one homogeneous unit. In his Presidential Address at Dunedin this year, G. T. Alley told his audience that, "The study by Andrew Osborn now completed . . . may well prove as big a shock to any library complacency this country may harbour as was the Munn-Barr study of twenty-five years ago." Naturally, there will be complacency after a quarter of a century. Andrew Osborn has provided the stimulus. I hope that the necessary provisions will be made so that the recommendations can be implemented. Given such provisions, New Zealand librarians of quality, and there are many of them, can handle the situation.

Finally, I would like to emphasize that this important survey is not merely a New Zealand affair. It is important that we, in Australia, should begin to think beyond our own borders and try to get to grips with library problems elsewhere. Australian and New Zealand librarians must begin to come together, to think together, and to work together.

Until the Canberra Seminar, supervised by Dr. Keyes Metcalf, there would seem to have been little interchange of information and ideas, and little, if any, reciprocity of library personnel between Australia and New Zealand. New Zealand's invitation to Andrew Osborn to survey its library resources must surely be indicative of a

desire to forge closer links with Australia. John Metcalfe's visit, too, was a very real contribution to Austro-New Zealand library relationships. New Zealand, in view of its all too thin layer of librarians, is not altogether happy about complete reciprocity. Nor are New Zealand library qualifications acceptable in Australia. Goodness knows why, since, as I have mentioned earlier, a New Zealand Post Graduate Library School has been in operation for more than ten years.

During the Canberra Seminar, an informal evening session was devoted to the question of reciprocity between the two countries. It served little purpose, because the New Zealanders were cautious while the Australians talked airy nonsense about parity with the English Library Association qualifications. I advise both Library Associations to get together and forge a mutual programme. This would indeed be a challenge to us all.

F. H. ROGERS.

Book Reviews

Subject classifying and indexing of libraries and literature, by John Metcalfe, Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1959. 45/-.

What a lot of common sense there is in this book. How very useful it will be to students studying for Registration R2, and to their teachers.

The book is intended to provide "more than enough material for a year's course in library subject cataloguing and classifying, information indexing and subject bibliography for library school students." It contains a comparative study of methods and actual catalogues, indexes and bibliographies, together with some rules for classifying, and an excellent "Tentative code for alphabetico-specific entry", based on Cutter's rules. There are also exercises with answers.

There is so much that is good and sound in the book that its few faults are glaring. As the book is a students' textbook it may be useful to list some of the errors and ambiguities here, to help prevent confusion in study. The errors are trivial in themselves, and they do not affect the arguments presented, but they may be puzzling.

On page 126, in comparing the hierarchy of DC 547.7 with the chain of references Science *see also* Chemistry *see also* Chemicals *see also* Acids *see also* Sulphuric acid, Metcalfe does not realize that there is greater non-correspondence than he states. 547.7 is Sulpho acids, and these do not

include Sulphuric acid. (Van Nostrand's Chemists' Dictionary, 1954.)

In the section on "horizontal" order in DC built-up numbers, 780.94203 is said to be the class number for a dictionary of British music. But does not this number really mean British music in the Plantagenet period? On the following page Metcalfe seems to think so, for he calls 780.94208 nineteenth century British music. DC is nowhere explicit on whether country subdivision should be taken as far as the period numbers or not, but a hint may perhaps be taken from 759.2, where the example 759.2081 is given as the class number for English painters of the Victorian period.

In discussing the A.L.A. Filing rules, subject arrangement 1 (based on the L.C. list) it is stated that "racial, linguistic, style and some period distinctions may be inverted adjectives . . . in one alphabetic order, for example, Art, American; Art, Ancient; Art, Baroque; Art, Greek; Art, Immoral; . . ." This is correct, but it could have been pointed out that since the 5th edition of L.C. subject headings itself, under this heading at least, racial, style and period inversions have been separated.

On page 227, the DC number 910.24 is called Human geography. I cannot trace this meaning anywhere in the indexes or tables of either the 14th or 15th editions. The nearest I can get is Geography — Books for special classes of persons. DC 15

gives Human geography the number 911.

In the "Tentative code for alphabetico-specific entry" Metcalfe does not really succeed in defending his liberal use of inverted adjectival headings very much beyond the point that Cutter would allow. We cannot object to some inversions, but usage must be the arbiter. We might expect Tennis, Lawn and Arbitration, Industrial and Dogs, Hunting, but hardly Dogs, Terrier or Dogs, Bull. In usage surely the adjective has become a noun, and patrons will seek under Terriers or Bulldogs. And if we wished to be difficult, or perhaps facetious, we might ask about the entry of Greyhound and Dachshund. Are these to be entered under Dogs, Grey or even under Dogs, Dachs? On the same principle we might expect Birds, Lyre. It is, however, profitable to compare Metcalfe's examples with an extreme (and, I suspect, useless) example of direct entry from Congress — Miniature electronic equipment, along with the use of Gardens, Miniature and Electric Railroads, Miniature.

The book itself is unpleasant to read. The type is such that the pages have a dull grey appearance and I found them very tiring to read. The literary style is often laboured, and the book requires more repetitive reading to understand it than should be the case. More full stops and more paragraphs would make the book less formidable. For example, compare pages 22 and 77.

Considering that the book is aimed at British as well as Australian students, gratuitous asides, such as that about shower-baths should surely have been avoided. There is plenty in this book, with its ample, and just criticism of some British practices to raise the ire of British students and teachers, without leaving the subject field.

The book contains a useful historical description of subject cataloguing and classification methods and there are excellent detailed studies and criticisms of major and minor British and American catalogues, indexes, abstracts and bibliographies.

The principal library classifications are dealt with in detail. The chapter on UDC

can only be described as brilliant. The chapter "Practical work and subject determination" is thoughtful and thorough. It shows clearly the author's familiarity with the problems of the student cataloguer. It will be of value to students of Registration R3.

Appendices deal briefly with Brown's Subject classification, Bliss's Bibliographic classification, Ranganathan's Colon classification and chain procedure, Kaiser's Systematic indexing, and other topics. The appendix on B.N.B. is thorough, scathing, and, I think, quite fair.

The common sense of the book has been mentioned. Here are a few statements to illustrate the down to earth treatment of its subject:—

"... classification is a means to an end ... and that even as a means, it is dependent on ... indexing sequences ..." (p. 22).

"... an illusion that, merely by specifying by some combination of numbers all of several subjects of a book, we have in some way *indexed* it as one on all the subjects in our specification". (p. 47, my italics).

"And above all it should be remembered that catalogues are to be judged by ease and efficiency in consultation, not by ease and economy in compilation". (p. 163).

Metcalfe may be taken to task for referring to Brown's Subject, Bliss's Bibliographic, and Ranganathan's Colon classifications as dead or dying. SC is certainly dead, but I do not think that it can be said yet that BC and CC are dying. Some of us may wish that they were, but the claim at this stage can only be wishful thinking.

Several reasons are advanced for the author's claim that subject headings lists are compilation tools, and not consultation tools for the cataloguer, and that a list such as Congress, with its many muddled and inconsistently punctuated and filed headings, should not be used, or at least not used exclusively, for consultation in cataloguing. There is truth in this, but the ideal is not likely to be achieved often. Chief librarians may still ask, if they know enough about the subject, "Why waste time making up headings when they can

be taken from Congress?" And to this question I doubt if there is an economically sound answer.

I shall find this book invaluable in teaching R2 this year, and for many years to come. It covers the syllabus more than fully. It is a very fine contribution to the literature of librarianship. I know of nothing better on its subject. It could easily remain *the* book. Congratulations, John Metcalfe.

R. K. Olding.

Tilton, Eva Maude, *Comp. A Union List of publications in opaque microforms*. Scarecrow press, New York, 1959.

According to the foreword "This is a compilation, in dictionary order, of American publishers' listings of opaque microprint reproductions through December, 1958."

The reviewer hoped to find in this volume an accurate and consistent listing, an adequate index, and a critical comment on each item. Such a compilation would help the would-be purchaser of opaque microforms since some publishers have not been prepared to check bibliographically before copying or to check the adequacy of copying before selling. The user of the Tilton list gets no help whatsoever.

The listing of opaque microform gives for each item a main entry, title, price, microform publisher, and serial number. Sometimes date of original publication and collation are given.

There are 3162 entries in the main list and an addendum of 82 items. A list of publishers of opaque microtexts and an index are also included.

No mention is made in this list of the ASTIA microprint cards. The periodical *Wildlife disease*, which has the distinction of being available only on microcards, is not included in the addendum amongst items in preparation.

Much of the material listed, being American family histories, American local histories, or physical education theses as exemplified by item (1494), "An analysis of aggression in boxers, wrestlers and cross country runners, as measured by the Rosenzweig P-F study, selected TAT pictures,

and a sentence completion test" would be of little interest outside the U.S.

In the compilation there is no consistency in main entry. A mixture of author, title and subject is used. To make matters worse, similar material is variously entered with no cross references. Thus British House of Commons' Sessional papers (item 468-9) and Great Britain House of Commons' Journal (item 1226), are unnecessarily separated and not cross-referenced.

In view of the inconsistent headings, the total inadequacy of cross references, i.e. 17 *See* and no *See also* references, makes this compendium unusable. One of the *see* references "English Literature Bibliographies *see* Americana and English Bibliographies" leads nowhere at all.

Related items such as *Beitraege zur angewandten Geophysik* (264) and *Gerlands Beitrage zur Geophysik* (1177) have no references one to the other (incidentally, such bibliographic details given, differ from both Gregory and BUCOP).

The index is too bad to be true. For a total of 3,162 entries there are 231 index headings and of these 158 are American personal names or American family names.

There are no entries in the index for Samuel Johnson, Shakespeare, Smollett or Tennyson, though works about these authors appear in the list. The items in the addendum are not indexed. The compendium is divided on the user's convenience, under 73 subject headings. There are mainly broad class headings, with an incomplete and inconsistent use of more specific headings. Thus the heading MYCOLOGY is used for *Annales Mycologici* (134) but Fries, E.M. *Systema mycologicum* . . . (1117) is not included under MYCOLOGY and appears only under the more general term BOTANY. Brunet, J. C. *Manuel du libraire et de l'amateur des livres* (491) is indexed under LIBRARY SCIENCE and not under the heading BIBLIOGRAPHY, and American journal of Science (79) is listed under SCIENCE and not under GEOLOGY. There is no index entry at all for many items in the main list and there are no cross references.

Even if we grant that such a compilation as this is necessary, librarians outside the United States could not justify the expenditure of \$7.50 on this book. Eastman Kodak's Catalogue "What's available on microprint cards" and other free catalogues obtainable from publishers of microprint will contain the material of interest to buyers in this country.

D. L. Jenkins.

How to find a book: Guide to the arrangement of the books on the shelves, together with an abridged index to subjects. New and rev. ed., London, Libriaco, nd. 24p.

This pamphlet does no credit either to librarianship or the publishers or to the unnamed editor. Although the cover advises that it is "Reprinted from the Dewey Decimal Classification by permission of the publishers", and is still on sale, it gives no indication as to which of the 16 editions it is based on. This point would require prolonged examination as so many important subjects are omitted, and the extent of abbreviation is a matter of conjecture, but internal evidence indicates that is not a recent one. For example, we find no entry for *air force or air service, aerodromes, airports* and no mention of the two *World Wars, fascism, dictatorship, or totalitarianism*. Newer subjects, such as *plastics, automation and cybernetics*, naturally, do not get a mention. *Aeroplanes: construction* is indexed at 629.17, which is drawn from the index of the 12th edition (1927), where, however, the tables show *aeroplane construction* at 629.18.

Although the index claims to be abridged only, it is very uneven in depth, as there are no entries for Dublin, Edinburgh, Leeds, Sheffield, the Isle of Man and Philippines, but Glasgow, Killarney, Kilkenney, Liverpool and Manchester are included.

Other examples of too selective indexing can be seen in the following:—

- (a) Science and religion 239.8
- Science and Rel. teaching:
- study 507
- (No mention of 215 here or under religion)

- (b) Distribution of animals 591.9
- Political Economy 338
- (No mention of 339.2 or 658.2.)
- (c) No entries given for *ballet, boatbuilding or cameras*.
- (d) *Wealth* is indexed at 331, with no entry for *Capital* (except *Capital and Labour* 331), although entries for both *Wealth* and *Capital* appear as far back as the 12th edition.

Wherever several entries commence with the same word, all the rest are subordinated to the first, with results that are often quite misleading. For example, the second of the following entries would naturally be taken to refer to contagious diseases of *animals* instead of contagious diseases:—

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Diseases animals | 619 |
| Contagious | 614.4 |

This practice is uniform policy and numerous examples are readily found. Some errors and inconsistencies in classification were noted, i.e.

- (a) French arts 759.4
- Presbyterian Church 295
- (b) Aerial navigation 623.74 629.13
- Aeronautics: military
- applied science 629.13

A systematic confusion arises from inadequate printing and proof-reading instructions. Usually where a range of numbers is indicated, a decimal is used instead of a stroke, e.g.

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Religion | 200.299 |
| Literature | 800.899 |

If it is suggested that the meaning is plain, Dewey's comment on unreformed spelling should be sufficient answer: the pronunciation of fine "is exactly analogous to writing 4537 and saying that 7 is silent, but means that the 5 is really 9, so the number of 493". (14th ed. p.50).

Even the title of the publication is misleading, as it does not tell how to find a book, but how to find a subject. Apart from the fact that no approach by author or title is suggested, there is already enough confusion between indexes and catalogues without its being added to by publications produced for sale to libraries.

The care of the publishers in one other respect is shown by the fact that their production is so very difficult to trace — the last entry appearing in the Cumulative Book Index is in 1928-32 (price 3d.), and no entry at all appears in the latest Reference Catalogue of Current Literature.

It would help libraries if Forest Press, before granting other publishers its permission to use D.C., would place a time limit on its use, and would also require some demonstration of professional competence in the purposes to which the classification is to be put.

I. M. Kelley.

Marshall, Mary J. *Union List of higher degrees theses in Australian University Libraries, Hobart, University of Tasmania Library, 1959.*

Organizations pass resolutions and discuss projects — the records of professional associations and co-ordinating bodies are filled with good intentions. But the work gets done by the enthusiast. Research workers and scholars will be grateful to Mary Marshall — for she has done what so many others have talked of doing. It was not an easy task to produce this union list — not even easy to get the lists of holdings from individual universities — and the task of classification from the data supplied was a difficult one. Now the work is done and Australian reference librarians have a valuable key to the literature of Australian research. No longer need the reference officer write around to all the university libraries to discover whether anything has already been done on the history of the Australian tariff for a glance at the list under *Trade and Commerce, Transport*, will produce three references.

The entries are clear and the numbering of each makes the use of the author index quick and easy. The inclusion of the number of pages would have been a help to scholars and libraries considering ordering a photo copy.

The most serious criticism to be made is not of Mary Marshall's work, but of Australian university librarians. The only libraries holding complete files of theses are the three newest universities — the others, owing largely to a previous lack of regula-

tions governing library deposit of theses, have incomplete files. One hopes that the librarians of these institutions will try to fill as many gaps as possible, and one hopes that they are writing to the holders of advanced degrees whose theses are not in the library. The preservation of the theses presented for higher degrees is important not only for the advancement of knowledge in a given subject field, but also as source material for the history of the university itself and the study of research and scholarship in Australia.

One hopes that all universities have made arrangements to forward details of new theses, as they are received, to Mary Marshall.

The book should and shall be hard used. It is a pity that the binding could not have been stronger and tougher.

J. P. Whyte.

Library Research in Progress, Nos. 1, 2, October, 1959, Jan., 1960. U.S. Office of Education.

With the first issue of L.R.P. the Library Services Branch inaugurates an occasional bulletin designed to serve as a clearing house of information about new developments in this field. L.R.P. presents basic facts and brief descriptions of research projects currently under way in all areas of library science.

The Library Services Branch of the U.S. Office of Education is to be congratulated on the publication of this very useful survey of the research projects which are being conducted by libraries, professional associations and foundations in library schools and individual researches in the United States.

The reports cover studies concerned with librarianship and bibliography and give the name and nature of the study, its direction, the name of the investigator and, where necessary, its purpose, scope and methodology. Each issue contains an author and subject index.

Australian librarians who read this journal will find on the one hand much comfort and hope — for here is evidence that the problems that we have time to recognize but not to solve are being tackled, and perhaps we may benefit from the solutions.

On the other hand, an Australian librarian may feel a touch, not so much of envy as of regret, as he reads this evidence of American energy, enterprise and wealth, for there is no research into professional problems being carried out in this country and the American solution is not always applicable in Australian conditions.

Australian libraries should write to the Library Services Branch of the U.S. Office of Education, Washington 25 D.C., for a

copy of this publication. Australian Librarians should read it so that they are kept informed of progress in librarianship — and we should, both as an Association and as individuals, examine our own current problems and consider whether there are not projects which could be tackled and solved here in Australia.

Library Research in Progress will be glad to report any research written in English.

J. P. Whyte.

QUEENSLAND BRANCH PUBLICATION

News of Queensland library activities is being published in Quill, a mimeographed publication of the Queensland Branch. The Editor is Mr. D. B. Scott, Deputy Librarian, Queensland University.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES SECTION PUBLICATION

The University Libraries Section of the Library Association of Australia is issuing a mimeographed News Sheet. Volume 1, number 1, March, 1960, has appeared, and four issues per year are planned. The Editor is Mr. D. H. Borchardt, Librarian, University of Tasmania. News of personnel changes, events of special interest to university librarians and Section news should be sent to him.

ACTION PICTURES OF AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL LIBRARY SERVICES are to be included in a book intended for publication soon in the Unesco series of library manuals. Prepared by Mrs. Mary P. Douglas, Supervisor of Libraries of the North Carolina Public Schools, this volume (No. 12 in the series) will discuss elementary school libraries and their services. Unesco recently sent an urgent request to our Association for help in finding suitable photographs, and these have been supplied with the very willing help of the officers concerned with library services in the New South Wales and Victorian Departments of Education.

STATE REPUBLICAN LIBRARY OF THE UKRAINIAN S.S.R. has asked the Association for help in establishing regular book-exchanges with libraries in Australia. Any member interested will be supplied with a copy of their standard offer form on application to the Honorary General Secretary.

PROGRESS

*A certain friend of Buridan declared across the fence
"It is ordained that B should follow A
And obvious that the chronic sequence of events
Shows constant progress here — and there decay!"
This simple outline of philosophy and self-defence
Disturbed the scientologists. Without delay
They searched for life's grassy-green evidence
To show their progress gained since Buridan's day.
Armed with a microscopic cosmic lens
They focused light upon the grass—till all was hay.*

—Boreardus Hobartianus.

What German Migrants Read*

E. FLOWERS, *Shire Librarian, Lake Macquarie Shire Library*

and

DR. L. BODI, *Department of German, University College, Newcastle*

Whether this paper is entitled "What German migrants read," as Dr. Bodi wants it, or "What New Australian migrants read," as I want it, is not very important. What is more important is some indication of the scope and purpose of the subject designated. What I am talking about is not only what migrants read, but also what they would find helpful to read. As a public librarian in an area with a large migrant population (migrant children make up 50% of the population of several of our large primary schools) I am interested in what we are doing for the migrant and in what we could be doing.

On what we are doing, all that can be said is that we are doing what we can with the resources available and that this as yet includes no specific readers' advisory service for migrants. What we could, should be doing, will probably be made clear in the discussion that arises from this paper, and is also indicated in the American literature on the subject, some of which is referred to in the course of this article. A great deal of work has been done on this subject of migrants' reading in the United States, where mass migration had ceased long before it started into Australia. The American libraries have had the problem before them for at least the last eighty years. Oscar Handlin's *The dispossessed* describes the migrant in America; publications, such as *Easy reading for adults*, by the New York Public Library, and the articles referred to below give some idea of the efforts made by librarians to help the migrants. The problems and the anguish found by the migrants in America, as described by Handlin, are just the problems and the anguish found by our migrants here, even if their only chronicle so far is *They're a weird mob*. The lessons learned by American libraries we can benefit by. Perhaps by studying the problem and earnestly trying to assist our

migrants, Australian libraries may make their contribution, too.

On one hand the migrant, on the other hand the Australian environment in which the migrant must learn to make his way. The bridge is idiomatic freedom in language skill, without which he will not be able to make his way, and gain the freedom in his new environment that he considers so important, the freedom from the sometimes desperate walls of the migrant community.

"A variety of forces combine to shut us in our small world: the pressure of economic circumstances, natural attractions, the hard experiences our fellows meet in the outer world, while certain repellant influences drive us away from the American community" (Panunzio)³.

These forces exist, and obviously must be overcome before the migrant can launch himself freely into the Australian community, which must at times be repellant as well as weird to the New Australian outside it.

On the one hand, the migrant. What is this migrant? Age? Previous environment? Educational background? Intelligence? What groups comprise the section of our population we now call loosely New Australians?

An important primary consideration is age. No matter what the intelligence and the educational background, it is true that children have no difficulty in acquiring the new language, that old people have no real hope of ever mastering the new language and no great incentive to do so, and that the others, from sixteen to sixty, are the migrants that have both the incentive and the difficulty. The speed with which a New Australian child speaks fluent English is

* A paper given before the Goethe Society, Newcastle Branch, on October 1, 1959, by E. Flowers, with a summary of the discussion by Dr. L. Bodi.

staggering. Apparently the language habits, German, Polish, etc., are not deep-rooted and the child, in his desire to conform, can quickly receive his new language. The older the child the longer it takes, but in any case, it is the child who is the mentor in most migrant families. It is the child who quickly becomes the shopper and the interpreter, and the child alone who makes it possible for his family to communicate with English speakers in the Australian community. Most old people realize the enormity of the task and are resigned to life in a family, in a community, in which the only language they can ever know well falls into disuse.

It is the 'under sixties' who must shoulder the burden of the new language, they who must attend the English classes conducted at evening classes throughout the country, who must, presumably, listen to the ABC conversation pieces for New Australians. Usually the men, thrown into the hurly-burly of life in steel plant or factory, improve more rapidly, and the stay-at-home wives have the greatest language difficulty. This is the group that the library must make a conscious effort to help.

There are first the pre-war migrants, refugees from Nazi Europe, and immediate post-war migrants, some of the displaced persons of World War II, who can be compared to 1848 migrants into the United States. To these can be added the later group of post-1956 refugees from Europe, mostly Hungarian. These people have, for the most part, been well-educated in their own countries and often have some training in, and are familiar with, the English language.

These people have the initiative and educational background (e.g. an acquaintance with Latin which is of great value in reading English) to quickly gain a working knowledge of English. What they need are books in varying grades of difficulty which for the most part they can sort out for themselves. Their reading speed in their native language will be their reading speed in their new language. This being the case they will have no trouble in finding books to suit them in the public library.

It is with the second group that the

public library is most concerned, and obviously not only because it is so much bigger than the first group. The second group is made up of the post-war migrants to this country, made up largely of the peasant labouring class, many of whom were unable to read fluently in their own language. These people must be encouraged to take their place in the Australian community, and think of themselves as citizens with full citizenship responsibility. They can do nothing of this until they overcome the language barrier. It is in this task that the library must strive with them.

Age and educational background are the two factors in the migrant, which decide the difficulty he will have in mastering the new language. At this point it may be well to stress that the library's interest in migrants is interest in a group of handicapped citizens, handicapped owing to a language difficulty which can be removed by practice in the language with the help of books provided by the library. Many native Australians don't read and, while librarians may bewail this for professional and patriotic reasons, many native Australians will never read because they don't have to and don't want to and don't need to. Without reading they can make themselves understood in their communities, and can still take part in community life. To get New Australians up to this level is the important thing. Whether they then become normal library users is another matter entirely. As Schretter says:

"Of course, all these people are not Nobel Prize winners or former millionaires. A favourite story among them is that of the dogs who were discussing their former status in the old world. Said a dachshund, 'In Germany I was a greyhound'."⁴

For the children the libraries provide the normal books in English, with, perhaps, foreign language books to help in the maintenance of a possibly enriching culture. While the Goethe Society would certainly agree that a certain portion of every library's budget should be spent on books in the German language, what are we to say about Czech, Polish, Hungarian, etc.

For the old people who read only in

their native language, what are the libraries to provide? Lake Macquarie Shire Library takes advantage of the foreign language collections of the Country Reference Section of the Public Library of N.S.W. But how far do Ina Seidel's *Lennacker*, Feuchtwanger's *Nero*, Geissler's *Der liebe Augustin*, Heinrich Mann's *Die Heine Stadt*, meet the reading requirements of the old German speakers in this country? And how much money should we spend on this anyway?

This and other intriguing questions cannot be discussed further here, but are certainly worth much thought and discussion and research.

On the reading habits of the major group, the adult group, the American libraries have done a great deal of work. What they say is applicable almost exactly to the Australian situation, as it exists at centres like Cardiff which has a large migrant population. Miss Ingram, the Branch Librarian at Cardiff, has provided me with a detailed analysis of the reading habits of the New Australians using the Cardiff Branch Library. In considering this information, one must remember that, as with the native population, a large proportion of the New Australian adult population does not use the library at all.

Most New Australians start on simple picture books, mainly children's books. On the use of children's books generally Schretter warns:

"The use of children's vocabularies as a guide in book selection for the foreigner leads to errors in judgment. The adult has a range of interest so much bigger than the child's."⁴

Then come profusely illustrated practical books—cookery books, books on making furniture, home-building, some of this probably stemming from economic necessity. Cook books are very popular with migrant women:

"a Viennese woman reading the directions for making sponge cake knows the plot of the story beforehand, so to speak."

One would imagine that multi-lingual books such as the Anglo Italian series of travel books e.g. the one on Italy which is

a book of photographs with introduction and captions in English, French and German, would be quite helpful. Some of the expensive European books on cookery and motor cars are also written in at least these three languages.

Technical books in one's own subject are very easy to read and are useful in this vocabulary building.

The migrant's subsequent non-fiction requirements follow his interests. One subject in which migrants are very interested is the history of first, Australia, and then, the communities to which they now belong. Shaw and Nicolson's "An introduction to Australian history" may be useful for the first. The complete absence of local history material is not so easily overcome.

The migrant's first fiction requests are often for English translations of books he has already read in his own language, e.g. *War and Peace*, *All quiet on the Western front*. The progress is then either to or through the light fiction categories, Romances and Westerns. (Westerns are apparently very popular in Europe where Americanisms (e.g. six-shooter, corral) have passed into the language.) These books have no plot complications, and a restricted, if sometimes ornate, vocabulary. The progress, if any, is through Shute and Yerby to the best of current literature, Cary, Greene, Masters, Hanley. In fact, up to, but no further than, the level at which he would read in his own language. Novels in which New Australian friends of mine were most interested were Dudintsev's *Not by bread alone*, Pasternak's *Dr. Zhivago* and Kirst's *No one will escape*.

The migrant's interest in the history of his new country is matched by his desire to read novels about Australia. Not that many of our Australian novels would be very useful to the migrant seeking to understand his present environment. Still, migrants in the United States were confronted with Faulkner. While on this subject it may be interesting to quote one of our readers who, on being asked whether she could recommend Williamson's *The sunlit land* to a New Australian reader said, "Well I suppose so but we like to give them a good impression don't we?"

We do have Ruth Park and Vance Palmer to add to Prichard and Tennant, and the historical novels of Timms and Dark must be useful as well as interesting. And much more than novels with contemporary settings they are free of the slang and the idiom so confusing to the migrant reader.

What do German migrants need? What do migrants of all nationalities need? This has been an attempt to get started on the vast subject of what they read and why they must read, and what we, whether lib-

rarians or members of the Goethe Society, Australian or New Australian, can do to help them. It should be interesting for us to find out how much we can do and decide how much we should do.

Articles referred to above

1. BRY, Ilse: Reading for Refugees (Lib. Journal, Nov. 1, 1940, page 503).
2. FLEXNER, J.M.: Readers' Advisory Work with the Emigre (Lib. Journal, July, 1941, page 593).
3. PANUNZIO, C.: The Immigrant and the Library (Lib. Journal, Nov. 15, 1924, page 970).
4. SCHREITER, N.: What Books for the New-comer? (Lib. Journal, Sept., 1940, page 24).

Resume of Discussion

DR. L. BODI

Mr. Flowers' talk was followed by a lively debate in which "Old and New Australians" — teachers, booksellers, journalists, housewives and students — participated. Some of the speakers showed great interest in the question posed by Mr. Flowers regarding the value of preserving a second culture, a second language, in Australia. They felt that the most healthy attitude was one of "conforming" quickly to Australian attitudes and taking every opportunity to learn English, — but at the same time "preserving" as much as possible of the cultural values of the migrant's native country, even if he had no intention whatsoever of going back to Europe again. To keep up a bi-lingual culture can be of great value to the Australian community too. As the whole meeting showed a very vivid interest in this question, it was decided that next year another debate should be organized on the problem of preserving the second language for migrants and their descendants, enlarging also on the difference in this respect between the German migrants and migrants of other nationalities.

The most surprising aspects of the debate were the examples of illiteracy amongst the migrants, in German as well as in English, which were cited by some

participants. Newcastle is an eminently industrial city, which necessarily had little attraction for the pre-war wave of intellectual migrants, but could absorb comparatively large masses of trained and also unskilled workers. It was, however, a not altogether heartening thing to hear in the course of discussion that many German migrants — and especially their wives — read practically nothing for the first two or three years of their stay here, as there was nothing available in German and their knowledge of English was by no means adequate to cope with English literature. It would appear that the lack of appropriate books and insufficient help and stimulation in the quick learning of English make life almost unbearable for a "New Australian" woman under the conditions of suburban life in a smaller city.

Mr. Flowers' talk also stimulated an active discussion on the sort of books most suitable for German migrants. Talking mainly from their own experiences, the speakers mentioned good examples of easy reading, English as well as German, to overcome the difficulties in the crucial stage of learning these languages for parents and their children alike. Most of them agreed with Mr. Flowers' suggestion about the use of picture books with multi-

lingual text, of comics and even most primitive kinds of love- and crime-fiction. Works that have become part of the great international treasury of juvenile literature and available in English as well as in German versions, — the tales of Andersen and Grimm, books like *Robinson Crusoe* and *Gulliver's Travels*, etc., may be very useful for the migrant who starts learning English — as well as for his children who should be prevented from completely forgetting the mother-tongue of their parents. From the educational aspect, it was strongly stressed that it is very important for the parents to get acquainted with the masterpieces of classical and modern English literature — otherwise they might completely lose touch with the cultural development of their children. Good translations of English and of German books can be of value in the complicated process of assimilation to new conditions and the preservation of traditional cultural values.

An interesting feature of the discussion was the request of almost all the New Australians taking part, that they might receive more information about Australia through their reading. German books on Australia, novels and historical novels set in Australia seem to be in great demand. One speaker even asked, whether there was anything like a history of Newcastle available in German. Books describing the difference between the Australian and the European way of life are necessarily of great interest for migrants. *They're a Weird Mob* was quoted several times as a good example of this kind of writing which, by the topical interest it holds, may induce the newcomer to read his first English book.

Many migrants complained about the fact that it is almost impossible to get even the most basic information in their mother-tongue. Bi-lingual city-guides are just as necessary for the migrant as manuals of everyday conversation, of correspondence, etc. Some of these problems may be solved

by good foreign-language local newspapers which, on the other hand, in most cases give no help in the learning of English.

It was surprising to hear how difficult it is in a great migrant-centre like Newcastle to read German books at all. Even the biggest bookshop has only some University textbooks; the German stock of the Public Library is rather poor. Only one big news-agency sells a small selection of German magazines and paper-backs. The Arts Library of Newcastle University College is practically the only place with a larger stock of German books; by an arrangement with the Librarian, these books are made available also to the members of the local Goethe Society which has a membership of about twenty-five. This, however, is by no means a solution of the problem.

The discussion showed that much more serious consideration should be given to the question of the reading habits of migrants and to the possibilities of providing for them the books they need. Local booksellers complained about not having any idea what foreign books to keep in stock; they would need some help and guidance, their own knowledge of foreign languages being rather limited. The same most probably, is the case with many public libraries too. Some of these difficulties could be overcome, if competent experts could give adequate guidance in this serious matter by compiling lists of suitable books for New Australians of different cultural backgrounds, of different age-groups, markedly differing in their knowledge of English. Similar lists could inform the migrants — as well as librarians, booksellers, etc. — about relevant and accessible foreign language books. Help might be given for such work by universities, schoolteachers, learned societies, migrants' clubs and associations — and, last but not least, by the Immigration Department; — the work itself, however, can only be done by the libraries and their skilled librarians.

Public Library Pioneers in Mildura Shire, Victoria

SHIRLEY CUMPER, *Shire of Mildura Public Libraries*

The influence of the great philanthropist, Andrew Carnegie, played its part in stimulating the public library movement in Australia.

Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919) was the son of a Dunfermline (Scotland) Chartist weaver, who emigrated to the United States in the "Hungry Forties".

His many endowments to libraries throughout the world were the result of a boyhood hunger for books, and an argument he took up with the Allegheny Town Council (U.S.), which denied boys who were not apprentices the use of an endowed library. Carnegie won this point, and the injustice of the incident always remained in his mind.

Carnegie entered the iron industry in 1865, became a multi-millionaire, and began his great career as a philanthropist. In 1879 he was able to offer £8,000 to his native Dunfermline, and in 1886 £50,000 to Edinburgh.

In Australia, only four Councils availed themselves of a Carnegie benefaction. These were Hobart, which received \$36,505 on October 6th, 1902; Midland Junction, W.A., which received \$7,300 on December 2nd, 1909; Mildura Shire, Victoria, which received \$9,825 on June 23rd, 1906; and Northcote, Melbourne, Victoria, which received \$14,610 on March 13th, 1909.

The library at Hobart is still functioning, as the headquarters of the State Library in Tasmania. The Mildura (now City) library still functions as a modern Free Public Lending Library, and Northcote is also incorporated into the modern public library scheme.

The far-sightedness of the Councillors of Mildura Shire, a remote and sparsely populated area in the desert-like lands of Australia, is the subject of this article.

In 1906 the only Municipality in the

district was the Shire of Mildura. There were then four Ridings compared with three now. The Mildura Riding embraced what is now the City of Mildura.

The Municipality was actually somewhat larger then than it is today, as some areas of desert like land in the south were annexed in 1911, and became part of the Shire of Walpeup. The Red Cliffs and Merbein settlements were not in existence, the irrigation area being that supplied with water by the First Mildura Irrigation Trust; it included Nichols Point, Irymple, Koorlong, Mildura South and Billabong. The estimated population was 4,640; it is now 28,500 including the City. The capital value of the whole area as shown in Council's records in 1906 was £577,340. It is now £24,825,340. The total revenue of the Council for the year ended September 30th, 1906 was £4,963. The revenue of the Shire alone is now over £400,000 each year.

The Shire of Mildura was created in 1890, and in 1891 a Committee was formed in Mildura for the purposes of constructing and maintaining the Mildura Public Institute. The building was completed that year, and apparently contained a Hall and a Library. The Council was not officially connected with it, but in 1896 the Committee of Management requested Council to take it over and after a lengthy discussion it was taken over in January, 1898, and a Caretaker and Librarian appointed at a salary of £5 per annum, plus 10% commission on takings. These takings were apparently Hall rentals and Library fees. The position changed hands frequently, and by 1903, it had improved, altered or decreased in status, when an Officer was appointed to the combined position of Caretaker, Librarian, Sanitary Inspector and Lighter of Street Lamps, at a salary of £115 per annum. This position continued until the Carnegie Library came into existence in 1906.

Quoting verbatim from Council's Minute Book, the historical entry referring to this proposed library reads:

"Re A. Carnegie's letter. Committee recommend that Council thank Mr. A. Carnegie, and to comply with the conditions of this letter and supply him with the particulars asked for, and guarantee that if library is erected and equipped to expend up to £100 per annum to maintain the library, and that Council make available sufficient site near the present Shire buildings for the erection of a new library.

The Committee also recommend that if the above is agreed to that the Chairman of the Committee (Cr. De Garis) be asked to interview Mr. Carnegie, and explain the circumstances connected with the application. Resolved on the motion of the Shire President, seconded by Cr. Gooch, that a letter of introduction be given to Cr. De Garis, for use when travelling through Europe and America."

The next entry is: "The Works Committee and the Hall and Library Committee met as directed last meeting to deal with Mr. Carnegie's letter and resolved that this Council accept Mr. Carnegie's offer of £2,000 for the erection of a Library and proceed to forward plans as soon as possible of the proposed building together with a legal agreement that it shall be a Free Library, and that the Council will either appropriate £100 each year from the Municipal funds or strike a special rate sufficient to raise £100 per annum for the maintenance and upkeep of the Library."

This Minute continues:

"The design of the new building was submitted to the Committee on 27th August, and approved. The full plans, etc., will be ready in a week. Resolved that a meeting of the Hall and Library Committee be held on Saturday, the 8th inst. The Book Committee met and selected £10 worth of books."

(To-day the Shire Libraries have one of the best book stocks in Victoria.)

The Shire of Mildura Public Libraries, owned by the Mildura Shire Council, and subsidized by the Free Library Service Board of Victoria, were opened by the Chief Secretary, The Hon. K. Dodgshun, M.L.A., in January, 1951, at Red Cliffs, followed by Irymple in June, and Merbein in November of the same year.

The service proved so popular that small depots were opened at out-back areas; at Werrimul and Meringur in the wheat district; Cardross and South Merbein in the fruit area; Nangiloc on the Murray River; and Nichol's Point in the fruit area. These depots are run voluntarily, under the supervision of the library staff, and are situated in shops and schools.

The statistics for 1959 include: 19,228 books; 4,018 borrowers; with a total number of 83,279 books issued during the year.

There are also special services provided for borrowers, such as linguaphone records; sets of plays for amateur groups; classical and children's records; library periods and readings at district schools; and participation in the Victorian annual library week, which has included special celebrations for the Olympic Games in 1956, and in 1958 a Shakespearean Festival.

The Red Cliffs library is proud of its small "Australiana" section, and is hoping to build it up still further.

In general reading habits have changed considerably since the inauguration of the district libraries. Many who only read westerns and romances, and had not understood the interest and value of non-fiction books have given up the ephemeral reading, and have become regular readers of literature and non-fiction.

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Mr. G. Stewart, Secretary, Free Library Service Board of Victoria.

Problems involved in establishing a slide collection in the School of Architecture, University of Melbourne

MISS E. SWAN

Formerly Librarian, Architecture Branch Library, University of Melbourne

This article is written for those who wish to make use of our experience in setting up and running their own slide collections.

The Architecture School branch library in the University of Melbourne now has a collection of nearly 7,000 35 millimetre slides, and it is growing at the rate of roughly 250 each month. For many years the school has had a small collection of 3" x 3" black and white glass slides and the decision to replace these with 35 mm. ones was made for a number of reasons. The 35 mm. slides are more convenient to have made and are readily available in colour which in turn makes them more interesting and stimulating. It is much easier and relatively cheap to obtain 35 mm. slides of the latest overseas architecture by duplicating travellers' slides quickly. Finally, the 35 mm. slides are lighter, easier to handle and their projectors more efficient. The classification of the glass slides was inflexible and clumsy — it was to be replaced also. Gradually, we intend to convert the useful glass slides to 35 mm.

Previously many of the lecturers also had small collections of 35 mm. slides in their rooms. This was not satisfactory because it involved considerable duplication of slides so making it much more expensive than necessary. It was felt that a master collection under the supervision of a trained full-time librarian would be more efficient and more economical in time and money. Furthermore it would mean that the collection could cover a wider field thus providing material which perhaps individual lecturers had not previously considered.

Functions. The main purpose of the slide collection is to provide illustrations

for lectures in all subjects covered by the Bachelor of Architecture, and Bachelor of Building syllabi. It is used also by outside organizations such as schools, and architects who plan to give talks on various architectural subjects.

Scope. The collection covers a very wide field:—

- (a) Various styles of architecture from all countries for all periods from pre-historic times to the present day.
- (b) Various types of buildings showing their design problems and solutions (e.g. hospitals, schools, factories, etc.)
- (c) Slides showing different types of structures throughout the world, and from early to modern times. (e.g. timber construction, shell-concrete, etc.).
- (d) A few slides on industrial design, sculpture, town planning, interior design and decoration (Note:— Town and Country Planning Department has a separate collection).
- (e) Slides showing the work of important architects both historical and contemporary — these include a fairly high proportion of Australian architects' work.

Source. The slides are obtained by photographing book and magazine illustrations, and by duplicating private collections. They are chosen and ordered by members of the School staff from the Visual Aids Department of the University. Amateur photographers among the lecturers and students provide many slides of local buildings.

Accessioning. When the slides arrive in the Library they are accessioned — details of accession number, date of acquisition, source, subject, date and country being

entered in an accession book. The accession number is printed on the mount together with brief information regarding architect, dates of construction, name of building and place. This is a simple, perhaps even crude, system but is worth while for four reasons. We know how many slides are in the collection, how many are received per month and it is a means of keeping in some reasonable order slides waiting to be classified. The accession number acts as a further identification in the case of slides which have similar classification numbers. In case of breakage or loss we are able to obtain replacements easily.

Storage. The slides are put into glass jackets to protect them from being damaged by finger marks, scratches and dust. We have found the glass jackets put out by *Agfa* and called *Agfa Dia Rahmen* quite satisfactory. Unlike the

metal on plastic mounts these have gummed frames $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide on both sides — which makes the jacket completely dust proof.

The slides are then stored in 6" x 4" cards in steel filing cabinets (17" x 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ "). The cards have provision for the following information: — classification number, accession number, name of subject, architect, source of slide, whether the slides are black and white or coloured. They have a pocket on the bottom left hand side and provision on the top right hand side for a print (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ ").

The slides are kept in this way because it is thus easier and quicker to identify the large numbers of slides needed at one time for lectures. The size of the print is unusual but the normal contact print was too small for our purposes. Positive prints from a black and white slide cost 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each plus the cost of the negative. Positive prints from coloured slides are

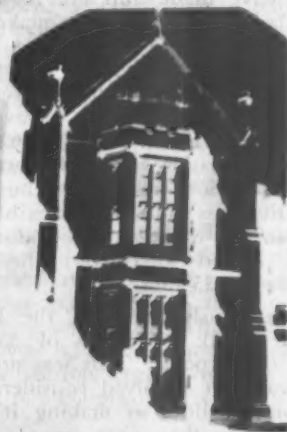
7: AUS: Vic
 Ps: ml: C

DATE 1854 COUNTRY Australia
 Victoria
 ARCHITECT F. M. White
 SUBJECT Melbourne University
 old library

Australia: Victoria:
 Melbourne University, Old
 Library

7: AUS: Vic
 Ps: ml: C

S-4503



SOURCE OF SLIDE

D. Saunders

COLOUR/BLACK & WHITE

far too expensive, but negative prints from coloured slides are satisfactory and cost about the same. Steel drawers were chosen because they were the cheapest and yet, as standard units, they are easily obtainable at any time.

Choice of Classification.

Choosing a classification was difficult. The different use made of the collection by lecturers in different subjects made it obvious that one classification would not suit everyone perfectly. Some lecturers want a purely historical approach—the development of styles in various countries or in a group of countries, e.g. Gothic Architecture. Lecturers on Theory wanted a selection of slides on types of buildings irrespective of country and sometimes of period. Lecturers on Construction want examples of different types of construction or problems of construction. Sometimes there is an historical interest (e.g. use of bricks), but mostly illustrations of current theories and methods are needed (e.g. use of reinforced concrete).

Other Systems. In the Harvard Graduate School of Design the slides are filed by accession number, and then given entries in a fairly complicated catalogue. Only black and white slides have prints and then on the main entry cards only. The Architectural Association in England has two sections. The "historical" section is divided into broad chronological categories under countries. The "modern" section is divided under types of buildings into English, European, American and so on.

For other purposes, the system used in the School of Architecture, University of Minnesota, was the most attractive.

Here the slides are "classified first chronologically, then subdivided geographically with other subdivisions for type of structure and photographic medium. The complete call number is composed of four lines." A fairly full catalogue is provided also with entries for the Architect and the names of the buildings.

We decided to model our system on the

one used in Minnesota but adapt it to our own needs.

The slides are separated firstly into periods, secondly into countries and thirdly into types of buildings.

The period Subdivisions are:—

1. Ancient — 5,000 B.C.— 6th century B.C.
2. 6th century B.C.— 3rd century B.C.
3. 3rd century B.C.— 299 A.D.
4. 300 A.D.— 1149 A.D.
5. 1150 A.D.— 1399 A.D.
6. 1400 A.D.— 1799 A.D.
7. 1800 — 1899.
8. 1900 —

These divisions are broad although not as broad as those used in Minnesota. If they were narrower they would not be convenient for covering world-wide architecture. We have found however that the 4th division is too broad for the east Christian and Romanesque periods in European architecture and this has had to be broken down into 4a and 4b representing 300 A.D.— 999 A.D. 1000 A.D.— 1149 A.D.

The symbols for the second subdivision were taken from "Distinctive signs for motor vehicles in International Traffic". This is a strange source but because they were standard abbreviations they were the most convenient for members of the staff to use and yet were brief.

The third subdivision is of building types. The symbols for these are taken from the "*American Institute of Architects filing system of plates and articles*". 2nd Ed. Rev. (C1949 1955).

We adopted the use of "view symbols" as in Minnesota. These are as follows:—

- (a) Plans and sections, elevations.
- (b) Projects, models and perspectives.
- (c) Exterior views.
- (d) Exterior details.
- (e) Interior views.
- (f) Interior details.

This is quite convenient for quickly sorting the necessary slides for lectures. Thus a slide showing the plan of a two-

tieth century American house would be classified as follows:—

8 (period division): U.S.A. (Country subdivision).

B1 (building type): a (view symbol for plan)
(symbol for houses).

These four subdivisions are obviously not enough if slides of a particular building or works of a particular Architect in one type and one country are to be kept together. Thus we also adopted the use of "work symbols" or "Architect Symbols". Plans of houses in the U.S.A. by Frank Lloyd Wright are as follows:—

8. U.S.A.

B1: W: a.

Houses by Mies van der Rohe in the U.S.A. are:—

8: U.S.A.

B1: M: a.

Index. Apart from the main collection there is a brief index or catalogue. This includes cards giving the symbols for building types—e.g. Hospitals.

The third subdivision for Hospitals is M1 under the period subdivision and country subdivision e.g.—

8. U.S.A. for all hospitals in MI

The index also includes cards for well known buildings such as UNESCO, and cards for architect represented. It is not a complicated catalogue—we feel the system is really self-indexing—but is intended for people unfamiliar with the collection and its classification.

How does this classification suit the specific needs of lecturers in this school?

Although not enough time has elapsed to accurately evaluate the classification, so far it does seem to be satisfactory. The main criticism is that it is complicated to the uninitiated but the more familiar the lecturers become with it the more enthusiastic they are. The system copes very well for History and fairly well for Theory and Construction lectures.

However we have found it necessary to add another period division for traditional architecture and for such illustrations as wind pressure graphs, etc., which cannot be limited to any period. Also at the beginning of each period division there

will be a strictly limited section for technical details which can be allocated to a period but not to a particular country.

Borrowing System. Each lecturer has a set of cards in one particular colour—when he wishes to use a slide he removes it from the card and inserts his own coloured card. In this way the other lecturers know what is available and if a slide is out, they know at a glance who is using it.

The same principle follows for visitors but in this case the name and address and date is given on the card.

We feel the borrowing system, although crude, is practical particularly for a start and particularly because the number of borrowers (apart from a few visitors) is limited to about a dozen. However, we cannot tell which slides have been out for too long. This is a problem yet to be solved!

Statistics are taken from the returned slides.

The problems in establishing a slide collection on a large scale are many and unfortunately it is impossible to accept completely the method of organization, including a classification, used in another library. The number of people who would use the collection and the use made of it by them are tremendously important and the whole organization must be geared to these two factors.

Naturally they will vary from school to school and so it is inevitable that the organization of slides will vary from library to library. Although our collection may seem unorthodox by usual library procedures it has proved successful.

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